

DECEMBER 1980

# **FLAMBEAU RIVER** **STATE FOREST**

## **Master Plan** **CONCEPT ELEMENT**



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*Dec. 17, 1980*

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Location Map	1
Introduction	11
 I. GOAL AND OBJECTIVES. . . . .	 2
II. RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM . . . . .	3
A. Timber Management . . . . .	3
B. Fish Management . . . . .	3
C. Wildlife Management . . . . .	4
D. Recreational and Administrative Development . . . . .	4
E. Land Acquisition. . . . .	6
F. Administrative. . . . .	6
Summary of Proposals. . . . .	7
III. LAND USE ZONE. . . . .	8
A. Introduction. . . . .	8
B. Designations. . . . .	8
Summary of Land Use Zones . . . . .	13
IV. BACKGROUND INFORMATION . . . . .	14
A. History . . . . .	14
B. Timber Management . . . . .	15
Pre-Storm Forest Cover Summary . . . . .	16
C. Fish Management . . . . .	16
D. Wildlife Management . . . . .	16
E. Recreation. . . . .	17
Estimated Public Use Trends. . . . .	17
F. Land Acquisition. . . . .	18
G. Scientific - Educational. . . . .	18
H. Original Land Use Zones . . . . .	18

### MAPS

1. Existing Facilities
2. Proposed Developments
3. Proposed Land Use Areas and Ownership
4. 1977 Windstorm

### Appendix I

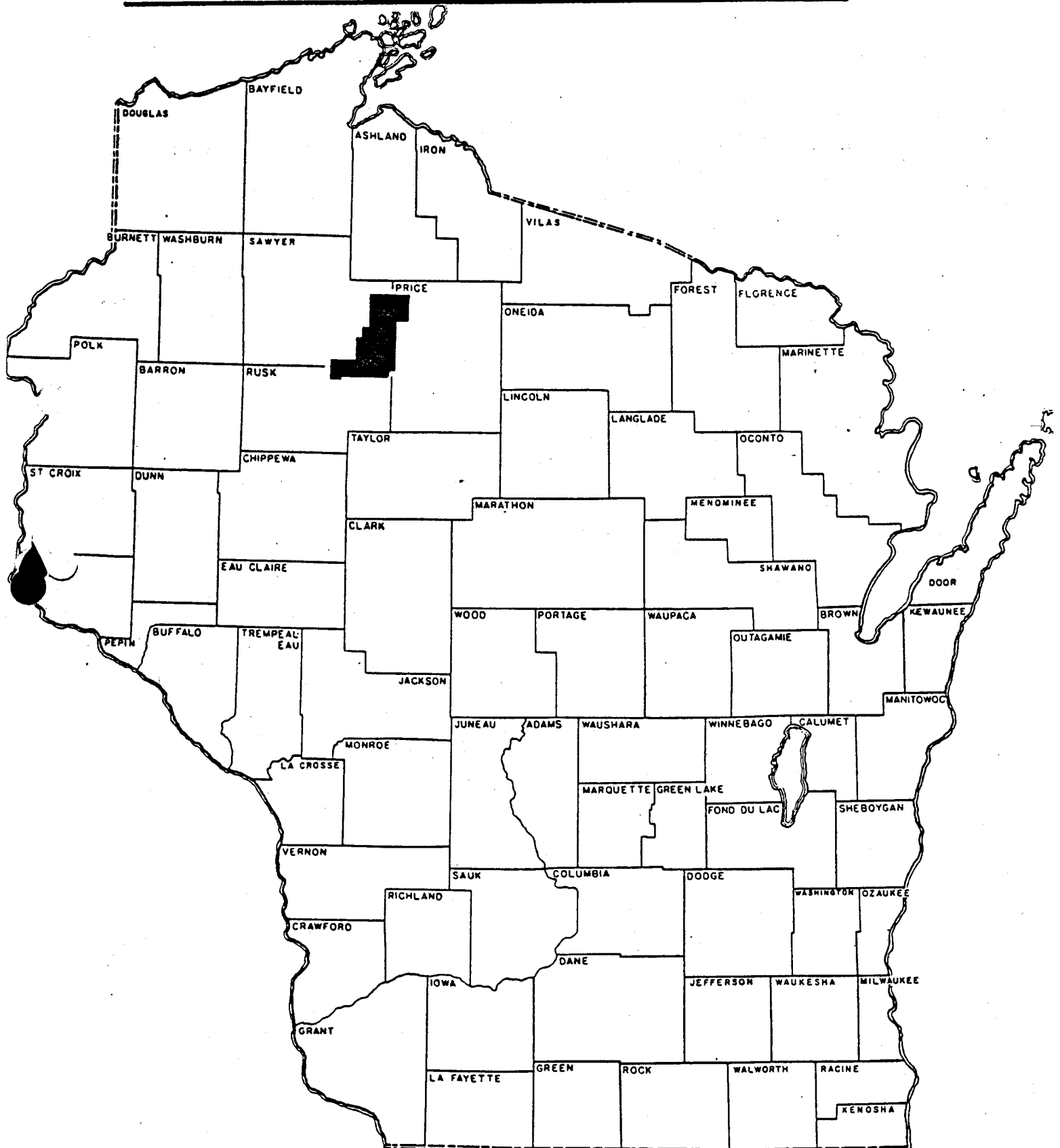
### Appendix II

Master Plan Comments



LOCATION MAP

FLAMBEAU RIVER STATE FOREST





## INTRODUCTION

The proposed master plan provides in general terms a summary of the concepts that will be employed in attaining the goal and objectives for the Forest.

The concepts presented herein are established within the constraints of Wisconsin Statutes relating to management of state forests, administrative codes, Natural Resources Board policies, and the Report of the Governor's Committee to review timber management policies on state-owned lands (March 1974).

Upon review and approval of this concept plan by the Natural Resources Board, it will provide a basis for the implementation plan. The implementation plan will schedule in detail the activities to be undertaken on the forest to implement the concepts and attain the goal and objectives.

Upon completion of the environmental impact process, the master plan will become the controlling document for operation and management of the forest.

# 1. GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

## GOAL

To perpetuate the natural resource values of the Flambeau River and adjacent lands; to provide for quality user experience of the Forest through the management of forest game, aquatic species, and accommodation\* of recreational and educational activities. Manage the timber resources to provide a sustained flow of quality products.

## OBJECTIVES

1. Protect and maintain a 13,560 acre wilderness zone extending one-quarter mile on either side of the North and South Forks of the Flambeau River which will be managed to preserve the natural character of the river.

2. To accommodate annually 175,000 user days of recreational activities as follows:

Swimming, picnicking, nature study, etc.	102,000 user days
River camping (canoers and boaters)	11,000 user days
Camping	39,000 user days
River excursions	23,000 user days

TOTAL	175,000 user days
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3. To intensively manage the forest resources to produce annually approximately 5,500 cords equivalent of wood products.

### Annual Production

Northern Hardwood	500 acres @ 7 cds/A. =	3,500 cords
Aspen	150 acres @ 12 cds/A. =	1,800 cords
Misc.	25 acres @ 10 cds/A. =	250 cords

Total	5,500 cords equivalent
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4. To manage land and associated wildlife to achieve varied habitats and produce a wildlife community for its recreational and aesthetic values and to accommodate 40,000 user days of hunting activity as follows:

Small game hunters	12,750 user days
Deer gun season hunters	18,000 user days
Deer bow season hunters	3,400 user days
Bear season hunters	1,350 user days
Waterfowl hunters	1,500 user days
Trappers	1,000 user days
Predator hunters	2,000 user days

40,000 Total

5. To manage water resources to accommodate 16,200 user days of fishing activity annually as follows:

Lakes	(1,051 acres)	8,000 user days
Rivers & Trout Streams	( 887 acres)	8,200 user days
Total		16,200

\* Accommodate as used in the goal and objectives section is our best estimate of carrying capacity of the Flambeau River State Forest. Page 4(D) explains that development will progress based on need not to exceed carrying capacity.



## II. RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

### A. Timber Management

The Flambeau River State Forest has been divided into 129 compartments each bounded by river, stream, road, or other natural features. Each compartment is subdivided into individual stands of timber and other cover types. Diagnostic and prescriptive biological data has been recorded by the process of field examination of each stand or cover type (compartment reconnaissance). However, due to the impact of the July 4, 1977 windstorm, much of the accumulated data within the storm area will need revision. Analysis of data outside the storm area coupled with preliminary storm area reconnaissance provides the basis for the following management proposals, based on sustained yield capability of the Forest:

#### 1. \*Annual Cutting Schedule:

- a. Clear-cut 150 acres of aspen.
- b. Selective harvest on 500 acres of northern hardwoods.
- c. A combined total of 25 acres of red pine, fir-spruce, swamp conifers and white pine to be cut by shelterwood, modified clear-cutting and selective thinning methods as appropriate.

#### 2. Limited tree planting on existing holdings including minor ornamental planting associated with recreational or administrative facilities and planting needed for deer yard cover. The bulk of anticipated planting will be directed toward reforestation of storm damaged areas which are considered suitable for the establishment and growth of either red pine or white spruce. It is anticipated that between 200-300 acres will be planted over a three-year period following completion of salvage operations. Planting in succeeding years will most probably be limited to white spruce at the rate of 10 acres annually:

#### 3. Site preparation for natural regeneration of aspen as follows:

**A. Pre-storm backlog	300 acres
**B. Post-storm commercial operations	1,500 acres
**C. Post-storm non-commercial	2,000 acres
D. Future annual harvests	<u>150 acres</u>

#### 4. Site preparation and direct seeding of hemlock and/or yellow birch on 15 acres per year.

#### 5. Non-commercial cultural operations to attain maximum quality and quantity growth of forest products on 50 acres or more per year.

### B. Fish Management

Fish Management activities will involve: Continuation of ongoing surveys to monitor current management efforts and uncover needs for new management measures, trout stream habitat maintenance and improvement and fish stocking.

1. Trout habitat maintenance and enhancement on Hackett, Log, Long and Price Creek: 11.5 miles to have boom covers constructed; 13 miles to be brushed for removal of undesirable cover, and 9 miles to have beaver dams removed.
2. Fish stocking will continue at current levels, i.e., 3,860 muskellunge annually in Connors Lake, Lake of the Pines, Evergreen Lake, Mason Lake and the Flambeau River, and 25,000 smallmouth bass in the South Fork of the Flambeau.
3. An effort will be made to establish smallmouth bass in Connors Lake and Lake of the Pines through alternate year stocking of 41,000 in Connors and 27,000 in Lake of the Pines until the 1983 re-survey.
4. Trout streams within the forest will be kept free of debris resulting from catastrophic events.
5. Lakes and flowages which basically have good water quality but have periodic winterkills will be stocked to maintain a fishery as natural conditions determine. Also, modifications or changes in stocking practices will be allowed based on current lake or stream surveys.

\* These are preliminary figures and may have to be adjusted after compartment reconnaissance is completed.  
\*\* Treatment needed by 1981. Post-storm acreages are preliminary.

C. Wildlife Management

The primary intent will be to maintain habitat quality for native game and non-game wildlife species. Efforts will be made to improve the quality of existing habitat where and when the program is compatible with other forest goals. Many of the needs are met in coordination with the timber management program. Manual Code 2112 will provide the basic guidelines. Data from recon update as a result of blowdown will be incorporated.

1. Aspen maintenance: Aspen is a "critical" wildlife habitat type on the forest. Maintenance of the existing acreage will be the goal. Annual acreage will revolve about scheduled cut in the timber management proposal.
2. Wildlife openings: Permanently sodded openings are essential to well-balanced wildlife habitats and are key components of quality summer range for deer. Acreage of existing openings is minimal, but will be maintained. Openings acreage will be increased by converting trails, timber sale landings, and selected pre-cut sites into permanent openings at the rate of 12-15 acres/year. The goal would be 3% of upland type acreage maximum.
3. Trails: 20 miles of existing trail will be maintained by periodic mowing and/or reshaping and seeding as required.

Two miles of new trail will be developed annually using logging roads and skidding trails.

Eight to ten miles of trail will be seeded annually.

4. Deer yard plans: Prior to planning, an intensive effort will be made to determine the impact of blowdown and resultant cover-loss in several primary deer concentration areas. It is proposed to develop and implement deer yard plans. Plans will be incorporated into the forest management program. They will include modified harvest restrictions to provide winter-cut top browse in logging jobs. Regeneration of cover species will be considered. Planting of conifers, if necessary, could be planned where cover may be deficient.
5. Surveys - To properly manage the wildlife resource on the forest, it is necessary to know the kinds of animals present and their numbers. Some of the surveys used are:

Deer  
Trail counts - fall  
Aging - Deer season

Woodcock  
Singing ground survey - spring

Ruffed Grouse  
Drumming survey - spring  
Brood observations - summer

Other  
Endangered & threatened animal  
Observations - continuous

6. Miscellaneous

- a. Wildlife Habitat Surveys - Wildlife habitat needs will be reflected in the analysis of compartment reconnaissance information.
- b. Wetlands - Marshes and wet areas are an integral part of the biological system of the Flambeau Forest. They have value as wildlife habitat, as natural laboratories, and as aesthetically pleasing.

An inventory of wetlands will be conducted according to Wisconsin wetlands inventory classification. Particular effort will be given to locating and protecting the following wetland types.

- c. Non-game surveys - An attempt will be made to establish a list of non-game species.

D. Recreational and Administrative Development

The following facilities will be developed as the need for additional sites becomes evident through increased use. (See Appendix 2)

1. Water Oriented

a. Canoe and Boat Landings

- 1) Canoe landing at Oxbo
- 2) Canoe landing at Hwy. "W"
- 3) Boat landing at Mason Lake (if private land can be purchased)
- 4) Canoe walk-in landing, Beaver Dam Rapids, SE ¼ Section 7, T36N, R4W

b. Canoe Campsites

- 1) Double site on former Benner property.
- 2) Triple site at former scout cabin.
- 3) Double site at Cedar Rapids.
- 4) Double site at former Petro property
- 5) Redevelop 9 existing sites from single to double units.
- 6) Triple site at trestle.

2. Campgrounds

a. Family Campgrounds - no development planned.

- b. Group Camp - construct an outdoor group camp for a maximum of 50 persons at former C.C.C. Camp. Camp will be designed for walk-in access with pit type toilets and well provided.

3. Day Use Areas

a. Picnic Areas

- 1) Redevelop Connors Lake Parking Lot
- 2) Redevelop Connors Lake toilets
- 3) Replace 30 benches at Connors Lake picnic area
- 4) Construct open-sided shelter building for public use.

- b. Combination picnic area and boat landing facility, Skinner Creek Flowage. Improve ½ mile long, gravel access road with parking for 5 cars. Provide walk in access with parking located 200 feet from edge of water. Single-unit pit type toilets, 5 picnic tables and 3 grills will be furnished. Repair the dike as required.

Interpretive signing and parking areas, Big Block, historic sites and management areas.

c. Bank Fishing Deadman's Slough

This area of private ownership receives considerable use. If the department acquires this parcel, a study will have to be made as to the extent of development desired. Its close proximity to State Highway 70 has encouraged use which is presently bank fishing.

4. Trails

a. Snowmobile Trail

- 1) Price County hookup to Flambeau system - 4 miles.
- 2) Trail rerouting (in conformance with Master Plan) - 15 miles.
- 3) Construct snowmobile rest stop.
- 4) Bear Creek connection (combined snowmobile/hunter walking trail gated during non-snowmobile season).

b. Cross country ski and hiking trail

Construct 15 mile trail with rest area (open shelter and single unit pit toilets) plus four back-packing campsites.

c. Nature Trail

Redevelop Slough Gundy area parking lot and toilets to include self-guided nature trail facility.

Redevelop Lake of Pines self-guided nature trail facility.

d. Proposed National Recreation Trail

The U.S. Forest Service is proposing a long-distance trail to connect the Ice Age National Scenic Trail with the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. The trail would be primarily on public lands; i.e. National Forest, State Forest, County Forest; with only 10 miles being on private lands or town roads. This trail would be accommodated as much as possible on existing trails in the forest.

5. Roads

- a. Access road - Lake of the Pines - 2 miles
- b. Price Creek extension - 3/4 miles
- c. Skinner Creek connection - 1 1/2 miles

- d. Improve existing forest roads (regrading, graveling)
- e. Access road Deer Lake - Sawyer County - 1 mile
- f. Gating or closing roads not in conformance with Master Plan.

The Lake of the Pines access road, while listed in this plan, will not be developed in the foreseeable future. Presently, the need is not considered sufficient to justify the cost. A future reevaluation may demonstrate that this situation has changed and construction will be warranted.

#### 6. Administration

Removal of improvements and restoration of acquired sites to natural condition.

#### E. Land Acquisition

Total state ownership is 87,744 acres 1980, or approximately 96% of the property goal of 91,708 acres. An active land acquisition program still exists.

Land acquisition will be based on a two acquisition zone priority.

Priority I. Lands needed for: 1) development projects identified in master plan; 2) protection of high quality fish or wildlife habitat; 3) high recreational (includes hunting and fishing), scientific, geologic, wilderness, scenic, biological use; 4) prevention of permanent changes in land use contrary to goals of property; 5) multiple forest and recreational use; 6) consolidation of state ownership; 7) aiding in prevention of management problems; and

Priority II. 1) Small parcels of land that has exceptionally high value improvements; 2) high valued land uses, where purchase can be deferred until the improvement values or land uses change; 3) lands in other public ownership, except Trust Lands.

Acquisition is carried out through negotiation on a willing seller-buyer relationship.

Based upon current land values, approximately 600 acres per year can be purchased with current funding.

#### F. Administrative

##### 1. Easements through wilderness and wild zones:

All requests for above ground utilities or other easements which involve restrictive use zones shall be subject to Natural Resources Board approval.

##### 2. Regulation of River-based recreation:

Until such time that the number of watercraft can be limited by statutory authority on the Flambeau River, and monies for enforcement are available, the Department can only react to public use by trying to prevent overuse and misuse of the resource while still trying to retain the aesthetic qualities, and wild atmosphere of the riverway. This will include providing camp units, as necessary, to meet the demand. Facilities should not be provided too rapidly as this may actually increase demand by encouraging additional use. The need for additional facilities will show up in the form of erosion at popular spots, camping at undesignated areas along the river, complaints of overcrowding at canoe campsites, additional garbage, etc. The manager's only tool, lacking proper authority and enforcement personnel, is to accommodate the use with the least amount of adverse impact and degradation to the resource.

Techniques such as clustering of canoe campsites, maintenance of buffer zones, maintaining a natural appearance, controlling erosion, and disposing of litter can minimize the impact of the user.

# SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

## Timber Management

Annual Timber Harvest	
Clear-cut regeneration cuts . . . . .	150 Acres
Modified, clear-cuts, shelterwood, selective thinning . . . . .	25
Selection silviculture. . . . .	500
Annual Tree Planting . . . . .	10
Annual Tree Planting (Storm Restoration) . . . . .	100
Annual Site Preparation and Direct Seeding . . . . .	15
Annual Site Preparation for Natural Regeneration . . . . .	150
Annual Non-Commercial Cultural Operations. . . . .	50

## Fish Management

Trout Habitat Maintenance	
Establish boom covers	11.5 miles of stream
Brushing	13.0 miles of stream
Beaver dam removal	9.0 miles of stream
Warm Water Stocking	
Muskellunge	3,860 annually
*Smallmouth Bass	25,000 annually

\*Plus effort to establish smallmouth in Connors Lake and Lake of the Pines.

## Wildlife Management

Openings Creation	12 acres per year
Maintain Hunter Walking Trails	20 miles per year
Develop New Walking Trails	2 miles per year
Trail Seeding	10 miles per year
Surveys	
Deer	Fall trail counts
	Yard surveys and plans
	Ageing during deer season
Woodcock	Singing ground survey (spring)
Ruffed Grouse	Drumming survey, brook observations
Wetlands Inventory	Endangered and threatened species observations

## Recreational and Administrative Development

Canoe Landings	
Boat Landings	4 sites
Canoe Campsites	
Develop 5 new sites	
Redevelop 9 existing sites	
Group camp - Develop 1 for 50 persons	
Day-Use Areas	
Redevelop 1 site	
Develop 1 combination picnic area and boat landing	
Trails	
Snowmobile trails	
Develop 4 miles	
Reroute 15 miles	
Develop 1 rest stop	
Develop Bear Creek connection - 2 1/2 miles	
Cross-country ski/hiking trail	
Develop 15 miles	
Nature trail	
Redevelop parking lot, toilets	
Add self-guided nature trail	
Plan proposed national recreational trail	
Roads - 5 1/4 miles	
Administration - 1 cold storage building at Headquarters	
Blacktop shop area	
Removal of improvements and restoration of acquired sites to natural condition.	
Land acquisition - According to priorities as willing sellers appear.	

## Administrative Proposals

Easements through restrictive areas
Regulation of river based recreation

### III. LAND USE ZONES

- A. The land use zones described in this section shall be effective with formal approval of this plan. Application of the uses and guidelines herein defined will control only the state-owned or leased lands within the boundaries of the property.

The Forest has been divided into <sup>twelve</sup> ~~eleven~~ different land use classifications, each with different objectives and permissible management activities. (See Appendix 3)

#### B. Designations

##### 1. Forest Production Area

Description - Zone in which no resource value warrants exclusive priority.

Purpose: To manage all resources through the application of proven and scientific methods for optimum production of timber, wildlife, fisheries and extensive recreation opportunities.

Management Guidelines:

- a. Timber operations will be in accordance with approved silvicultural methods.
- b. Forest cover will be managed to provide for balanced production of forest products, fish and wildlife habitat and watershed protection.

Acres designated: 62,005

##### 2. Class A Scenic Area

Description: The area adjacent to primary routes of travel, lakes, streams and recreation areas intensively used by the public and not zoned more restrictively.

Purpose: To develop and maintain the forest environment to its greatest scenic potential for public enjoyment.

Management Guidelines:

- a. The boundaries are determined by the horizon of effective visibility from the travelled or used part of the area.
- b. Modifications from normal timber management practices will be as prescribed in the DNR Aesthetics Handbook.
- c. Any timber cutting within 400 feet of the shoreline of lakes will be limited to cutting required to enhance or perpetuate long-term aesthetics.

Acres or Miles Designated: 1,218 acres

1. Lake shoreline - 290 acres (State-owned only)
2. Other travel routes - 29 miles. (Width indefinite)  
Based on average of 4 chains. (928 acres)

##### 3. Class B Scenic Area

Description: The area surrounding sites or travel routes of secondary importance, where no single resource value can be identified as most important; but where, because of the secondary intensity and variety of use, scenic attractiveness must be maintained.

Purpose: To manage these areas for normal resource use while maintaining scenic attractiveness.

Management Guidelines:

- a. The zone boundaries include the area of effective visibility which shall be determined at periods of highest use from that part of the zone where the use occurs.  
Manage for normal production but apply strict stand treatment requirements for any timber harvesting methods.
- b. Signs will be used to explain management activities to the public.
- c. As roads are built, moved or closed within the forest boundary former aesthetic management zones will be altered and new aesthetic management zones will be established to reflect these changes.

Acres or Miles Designated: 51.5 miles. (Width indefinite. Based on average of 4 chains-Acres = 1,648).

4. Demonstration Area

Formerly a tract of old growth northern hardwood timber lying east of County Trunk M, the zone has been totally devastated by the windstorm of July 4, 1977, and consequently can no longer function as a demonstration area for selective cutting in northern hardwood timber types, its intended purpose. The zone concept, however, will be maintained and implemented at areas suitable for such use, without definitive zone boundaries. Within these areas, northern hardwood management techniques will be displayed and publicized to illustrate alternatives in selection cutting.

5. Intensive Recreational Area

Areas designated and developed for recreational uses, including campgrounds, beach and picnic area, boat landings, canoe campsites, trails, etc.

Number of areas: 9 with 280 acres

6. Wilderness Areas

Large roadless areas where natural forces predominate and man's influence is minimal. Mineral exploration and mining are prohibited.

a. River Wilderness Zone

Description: A zone including the North and South Forks of the Flambeau River and extending 1/4 mile from the normal high water mark on each side.

Purpose: To allow a natural condition with little human manipulation.

Management Guidelines:

- 1) Vegetative manipulation shall be prohibited except:
  - a) To maintain areas at recreational developments or designated roads and trails.
  - b) Insect and disease control as required by law.
  - c) Plantations will be thinned to replace the unnatural linear arrangement of the trees with a more naturally appearing random arrangement.
- 2) Road access to the river by the public will be prohibited except:
  - a) At designated public access points.
  - b) On existing roads providing access to private property.
  - c) At existing bridge crossings and commercial developments.
- 3) No motorized vehicle trails for public use will be allowed. All existing trails will be obliterated (except as stated above) and/or rerouted outside the zone.
- 4) Development will be limited to:
  - a) Public access points.
  - b) Canoe campsites and a group canoe camp to accommodate canoeists, with a minimum of 400 feet setback.
  - c) Gated trails for maintenance purposes only.
  - d) Trails for foot traffic which may utilize the zone to take advantage of unique features.
  - e) Existing administrative areas.
- 5) After acquisition, existing improvements on private property shall be removed and the area allowed to revert, or if necessary, be restored to natural conditions.
- 6) Wildfires shall be controlled and suppressed.
- 7) The use of pesticides or other chemicals is limited to application required for human health and safety.

Acres designated: 13,560 acres

b. Big Block Wilderness Area

Description: A tract formerly occupied by large old growth hemlock and hardwood which was totally devastated by the July 4, 1977 windstorm. Set back in its successional stages by a natural disaster, the tract will in future years be predominantly occupied by hardwood seedlings and saplings.

Purpose: To allow nature to take its course with minimal human manipulation following a natural disaster.

Management Guidelines:

- 1) The goal shall be to obliterate the entire existing Big Block Loop Road and eliminate vehicular traffic within the zone.
  - a) The Carlson Road at its junction with the zone shall be obliterated.
  - b) The South Big Block road will be obliterated.
  - c) The North Big Block Road at its junction with Highway "M" will be gated. This trail will serve as an access for maintenance of the Scientific Area fence and access to private property north of the zone.
  - d) Existing snowmobile trails will be closed and rerouted outside the zone.
- 2) Collections of flora and fauna except edible mushrooms and plants will be prohibited. Hunting and trapping may be permitted as determined by the Natural Resources Board.
- 3) Wildfires will be suppressed.
- 4) No insect or disease control will be allowed unless required by law.
- 5) After acquisition, existing improvements on private property shall be removed and the area restored to natural condition.

Acres Designated: 1,354 acres.

7. Wilderness Lake Area

Description: A lake of five or more acres with undeveloped shoreline, no road access or any structural developments within one-quarter mile of the shoreline and where man's influence upon the landscape is not noticeable or can be obliterated at costs deemed warranted by the Board.

Management Guidelines:

- a. Complete preservation with no vegetative management within 400 feet of the shoreline or within sight of the water, whichever is greater, and along access corridors, except where necessary for control of wildfires. Insect infestations which threaten surrounding lands are to be controlled.
- b. In the area beyond the 400 foot zone to a distance of one-quarter mile from the shoreline, such vegetative management shall be permitted as will maintain and improve the aesthetic qualities of the lake.
- c. No camping shall be permitted within one-quarter mile of the shoreline.
- d. No structural developments of any type shall be permitted within one-quarter mile of the shoreline.
- e. Except when required for management, motors of all types shall be prohibited on the waters and all motorized vehicles shall be prohibited within one-quarter mile of the shoreline.
- f. Hunting, fishing and trapping are permitted.

This zone includes the waters and surrounding lands of Swamp Lake, T38N, R3W, sections 1, 2, 11 and 12.

Acreage:	Water	258 acres
	Land	486 acres
	Total	744 acres



8. Wild Areas

Areas with many characteristics similar to wilderness areas, including the predominance of natural forces or restoration possibilities. They will, however, be subject to some management practices not permitted in wilderness areas.

Purpose: To meet the public need to experience solitude and primitive recreation.

Management Guidelines:

Timber management will be practiced according to the guidelines in Chapter 19 of Silvicultural and Forest Aesthetics Handbook.

- a. Timber harvesting, stream improvement, and wildlife opening construction shall be permitted under restrictions as specified in Manual Code 1031.2. These restrictions are designed to retain insofar as is practical the wild quality of the area.
- b. No motorized vehicles shall be permitted except for those involved in logging operations and public vehicles involved in administration or management of the area. All roads shall be closed to public vehicular traffic.
- c. Hunting, fishing and trapping may be permitted.
- d. New utility or other easements shall be subject to Board approval.
- e. Mineral exploration shall be subject to Board approval.

Acres Designated:

1)	Bear Creek	2,072
2)	Butternut Creek	3,100

9. Wild Lakes

A lake of five or more acres with undeveloped shoreline, with road access available to or near the water's edge but no other structural developments visible from the water, and where man's influence upon the landscape is not noticeable, or can be obliterated at costs deemed warranted by the Natural Resources Board.

Description: The zone includes the water and shoreline of the following lakes:

	<u>Acreage</u>			<u>Acreage</u>	
	Water	Land		Water	Land
Little Pelican	30	47	Mason <sup>1</sup>	190	5
			Evergreen <sup>1</sup>	200	27
Hanson	36	112	Champagne	7	21
		Total		463	212

Purpose: To preserve and protect the waters and shorelines of the designated lakes in a natural condition.

Management Guidelines:

- a. No vegetative or human manipulation within 400 feet of the shoreline or within sight of the water, whichever distance is greater, except where required for control of wildfire, insects and disease.
- b. No shoreline alteration shall be permitted, except for designated public access areas.
- c. Primitive camping may be allowed by permit in designated locations.
- d. Motors are prohibited on Little Pelican, Swamp and Hanson Lakes.

Acres Designated - 212 acres

<sup>1</sup> Area classifications apply to the state lands only. Although the bulk of shoreline on Mason and Evergreen is privately owned, future acquisition may be possible.

#### 10. Scientific Areas

Description: Two areas of unique biotic communities preserved for scientific purposes. The July 4, 1977 windstorm has destroyed most of the original hemlock-hardwood cover type, but all of the Lake of the Pines conifer-hardwood area and part of the Flambeau River hemlock-hardwood area are being retained as scientific areas.

Purpose: To insure availability of the areas for research and educational purposes without man-caused disturbances to biotic communities and natural features.

##### Management Guidelines:

- a. Development and management shall be limited to the extent required to assure protection of the area and prevent damage to surrounding lands.
- b. Public use shall not be encouraged, in order to protect fragile features. Therefore, the areas shall not be publicized.

##### Acres Designated:

1) Flambeau River Hemlock-Hardwood Forest	368 acres
2) Lake of the Pines Conifer-Hardwood Forest	190 acres
Total	558 acres

#### 11. Habitat Preservation Area

Description: Areas and sites that encompass the specific habitats of birds, animals or plants classified as endangered.

Purpose: Maintenance of habitat conducive to reproduction and survival of endangered species on the forest.

Endangered and Watch Status Species: The bald eagle, an endangered species is established in three known locations on the forest. Efforts will be made to provide for nest trees within identified eagle breeding territories. If future survey efforts reveal additional species in this classification are resident to the forest, appropriate protective zones will be established. The bobcat and fisher are species known to inhabit the forest that have watch status under the Endangered Species Program. Steps will be taken to provide for the welfare of these species in accordance with program directives.

##### Management Guidelines:

- a. A zone having a .5 chain (330 feet) radius around nests of eagle and osprey within which no land use activity is permitted.
- b. A zone extending <sup>20</sup> chains (1,320 feet) beyond the No Land Use Zone in which land use is limited to the period from August 1 to February 15 for eagles and to March 15 for osprey.
- c. Roads and trails under DNR jurisdiction within 20 chains of a nest site will be closed to vehicular traffic where there are no feasible alternatives to meet public needs.

##### Acres Designated:

2 nesting sites	16 acres
No Use Zone	235 acres
Seasonally Limited Use Zone	251 acres*
Total	

#### 12. Historical and Archaeological Areas

Description: An area surrounding a designated historical site adequate to enhance and protect that site.

Purpose: To set aside, enhance and protect sites or features of historic significance.

None exist at present but as these are found they will be included.

---

\* Both sites are partially in Wilderness Zone. Wilderness guidelines will be controlling in those portions.

Management Guidelines:

- a. Class A aesthetic zone guidelines will apply.
- b. Activity for the purpose of marking and/or preserving the site is permitted.
- c. Restorative measures for those designed to enhance cultural values are permitted.
- d. Activity that tends to destroy or distort historic vestiges will be prohibited.

Acres Designated: None. The zone is included in the event that ongoing historical research uncovers sites of sufficient significance to warrant designation.

SUMMARY OF  
PROPOSED LAND USE ZONES

Land Use Zones:

1. Forest Production Area	62,005 acres
2. Class A Scenic Area	1,218
3. Class B Scenic Area	1,648
4. Demonstration Area	-----
5. Intensive Recreational Area	280
6. Wilderness Areas	
A. River Wilderness	13,560
B. Big Block Wilderness	1,354
7. Wilderness Lake	486
8. Wild Area	5,172
9. Wild Lakes	212
10. Scientific Area	558
11. Habitat Preservation Area	251
12. Historical and Archaeological Area	-----
Total	87,744

#### IV. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

##### A. History

The Flambeau River State Forest had its beginnings some time before World War I, when concern was mounting at the rapid destruction of timber resources by logging and uncontrolled fires.

1913 - Public ownership along the Flambeau River consisted of 2,600 acres under the jurisdiction of the State Land Commission and 1,000 acres under the Conservation Commission.

1917-1927 - The late Judge Asa K. Owens of Phillips led a group that sought to save the timber along the Flambeau by having the state acquire it as a recreation area, from Park Falls to Big Falls; using the 3,600 acres of public land as a nucleus.

1930 - Flambeau River State Forest officially established.

1941 - State forest acreage owned was 26,000 acres.

1942 - Carl Kielcheski assigned forest ranger in charge on October 1. He had a crew of three men. The former Connors Lake C.C.C. Camp was designated the Forest Headquarters.

1942-1949 - State ownership increased approximately 25,000 acres. There were several severe storms, including a tornado in August 1942. Management involved land acquisition, forest fire control, salvage of dead and down timber, limited Aspen cutting and some tree planting.

1949-1952 - Four severe windstorms. The dates and estimated volumes destroyed were as follows:

October 10, 1949	3,000,000 Board feet
May 5, 1950	1,500,000 Board feet
July 7, 1951	4,500,000 Board feet
June 24, 1952	3,000,000 Board feet

Except for some small miscellaneous sales, the salvage sales were contracted by public auction. The total scaled volumes and sales receipts were:

<u>Sawtimber</u>	<u>Pulpwood</u>	<u>Receipts</u>
	<u>WCD Lands</u>	
8,081,660 Bd. ft.	6,424.93 cords	\$159,994.55
	<u>Land Commission Lands</u>	
3,175,920 Bd. ft.	1,925.36 cords	44,892.60

All salvage operations from this series of storms were completed by July 1953.

The Isaac Walton League, Citizens Natural Resources Association and others created considerable controversy about cutting on the Forest, particularly in the area of old growth Hemlock-hardwoods known as the "Big Block."

Many meetings were held in this period and people such as Wallace Grange, Mrs. Edward Labudde, Mrs. F. L. Larkin, Sigurd Olson and others visited the Flambeau Forest on several occasions and suggested that a core of one mile in width on each side of the River be designated as an inviolate wilderness core where no management would be permitted.

The Department cooperated with the groups interested in the future of the Flambeau Forest by providing their representatives the opportunity to have their say at meetings arranged by Ernie Swift at Madison in October of 1951 and at Commission meetings in June and November of 1952.

Difficulties experienced by the Commission in arriving at a decision and final adoption of a policy were compounded by the series of blowdowns during the height of the controversy.

1953-1960 - The policy plan adopted in 1953 by the Wisconsin Conservation Commission and published in 1955 as "Wisconsin State Forests" by the Wisconsin Conservation Department provided a series of seven zones of use for the management of the Flambeau River State Forest. These zones are:

1. River - Wilderness zone
2. Buffer zone
3. Private and commercial zone
4. Scientific zone
5. Lake zone
6. Road zone
7. Multiple use zone

Between 1953 and 1960 management on the Flambeau consisted of salvage cutting within the "Big Block" which laid outside of the River Zone; hardwood selection cutting and some harvest of aspen in the multiple use zone; land acquisition, tree planting, road construction and recreational development.

1961-1970 - The entire Forest including the "Big Block", was divided into compartments and the Forest was "reconned". Each compartment in the "Big Block" was entered and selection cuts were made.

Two family campgrounds and a beach and picnic area were constructed.

1971-1980 - Three sales were marked for selective cutting in the "Big Block" as part of the normal cutting cycle. The opening of bids was set for October 11, 1971. That morning Governor Lucey placed a moratorium on cutting in the "Big Block" and all bids were rejected. The Governor acted after a botany professor strongly protested the planned sales. Subsequently, a committee was appointed to study management practices on state lands. The Governor's Committee report was published in March 1974. The Committee had been divided on recommendations for the "Big Block". The majority wanted the large no-cut zone between the Flambeau River and County Road "M". Demonstration cutting sites were also recommended.

The Natural Resources Board adopted both recommendations, designating the area east of "M" as a demonstration area.

On July 4, 1977, a devastating windstorm flattened thousands of acres of timber on the Flambeau Forest (See Appendix 4). Hardest hit of all was the old growth sawtimber within the "Big Block;" and within the 1/4 mile river zone for approximately ten miles of its length. The "Big Block" area was located nearly in the center of the storm's path.

Salvage operations in the wind damaged timber began immediately after approval was granted by the Natural Resources Board. Most of the high value timber has now been salvaged. Salvage operations will continue until remaining damaged timber becomes unusable. A summary of the July 4, 1977 windstorm salvage operations as of May 31, 1980 follows:

Sales Sold - 131

Acres - 10,606

Volume Scaled

Remittances Including Deposits

108,980.57 cords  
18,571,290 bd. ft.

\$1,426,998.87

Restoration efforts to date have centered around cleanup of recreation areas, opening of trails and roads, cutting of unmerchantable hardwood in pre-storm aspen areas to promote aspen regeneration, monitoring natural regeneration, trial applications of seeding hardwood species on salvaged sites and some tree planting.

The storm's destruction will cause a reduction in the flow of timber products from the property, as many damaged stands will be unmerchantable for an extended period. Losses of other resource values are still being assessed, and include the negative impacts on forest-game habitat, regeneration of timber types, recreational pursuits, and other long term resource effects.

B. Timber Management

The two major timber types on the forest are northern hardwood and aspen, together comprising a total of 45,000 acres and representing over one-half of the total area of the forest. The July 4, 1977 windstorm has drastically altered the programmed harvest of this resource, and has resulted in a shift of emphasis from normal harvest and cultural operations to expedient large scale salvage operations. In addition, obsolete reconnaissance data within the storm area must be updated and incorporated into revised management schedules. Preliminary investigation indicates that 500 acres of hardwood timber types will be harvested annually. Aspen types were extensively storm damaged, with an estimated remaining balance of 1,500 acres (exclusive of storm damage) to be harvested within the next ten year period. So far 3,700 acres of red pine and white spruce have been planted on the forest, and future planting operations will be aimed at restocking storm damaged stands on suitable sites. Timber stand improvement operations involve pruning, release, and aspen maintenance. A substantial volume of aspen maintenance work will be needed on salvaged and unsalvaged storm damaged stands to insure adequate aspen regeneration.

PRE-STORM FOREST COVER ACREAGE SUMMARY \*\*

(1970 OWNERSHIP)

White Pine	1,299
Red Pine	1,128
Fir-Spruce	3,974
Black Spruce	2,419
Tamarack	684
Cedar	432
Swamp Conifers	1,366
Hemlock Hardwood	4,688
Northern Hardwood	34,089
Swamp Hardwood	5,448
Aspen	13,668
White birch	517
Grass	655
Upland Brush	3,792
Lowland Brush	5,299
Non-Production Swamp	2,734
Off-site Aspen	373
Muskeg	1,410
* Miscellaneous	392
	<hr/> 84,367

\* Minor water R.O.W. & I & R

\*\* Updated compartment recon may change existing acreages (wind damage effects)

C. Fish Management

The Flambeau River State Forest's associated water resources offer a wide variety of fishing experiences. Current activity is centered around surveys to update the information base upon which to prescribe future management. In addition, many of the waters are stocked annually with warm water fish species, at approximately the following levels:

1. Connors Lake - 800 muskies/year, plus 41,000 smallmouth bass on alternate years. (Until 1983 re-survey)
2. Lake of the Pines - 450 muskies/year, plus 27,000 smallmouth bass on alternate years. (Until 1983 re-survey)
3. Evergreen Lake - 200 muskies/year
4. Mason Lake - 400 muskies/year
5. Flambeau River - 1,260 muskies/year
6. South Fork of the Flambeau - 25,000 smallmouth bass/year  
- 750 muskies/year

Protection of spawning habitat to perpetuate the native species is a primary function. Particular emphasis is also placed on the maintenance and enhancement of suitable trout habitat and to provide for quality angling. Habitat enhancement involves the removal of beaver dams on high quality trout streams, brushing to remove undesirable cover and construction of boom covers.

Current use is estimated to be as follows:

Lakes (1,051 acres)	-	4,000 fishermen days
Rivers & Streams	-	4,500 fishermen days

D. Wildlife Management

Primary activities on the forest are centered upon programs designed to provide quality habitat for deer, ruffed grouse, and a variety of other forest game species. The habitat work benefits a host of nongame wildlife as well. Programs include: aspen regeneration, openings maintenance and creation, trail seeding, mowing and renovation. The "hunter walking trail" program is incorporated into the overall trail effort. The winter range deer management program involves long-range deer yard planning and incorporation of winter-cut timber sale restrictions. These programs require supporting activities such as openings inventory and aerial reconnaissance of current winter deer concentration areas. The latter is especially important due to blowdown impact and loss of winter cover in several primary deer yards. The analysis of forest type composition by habitat units is the basis for coordinating timber management activities to meet wildlife management objectives. Other activities include seasonal game surveys and collection of data on endangered species such as eagle and osprey nesting territories.

Current use is estimated to be:  
 22,000 small game hunter days  
 10,000 big game hunter days  
 600 trapper days  
 400 predator hunter days  
 200 waterfowl hunter days

#### E. Recreation

Development of the recreational program has been controlled. An effort has been made to balance demonstrated public need for facilities with the need for maintenance of the natural character of the property.

Existing recreational developments on the forest consist of the following:

	<u>ACRES</u>
a. Two family campgrounds of 30 units each	20
b. One self-guided nature trail approximately 1 mile long	10
c. One combination beach and picnic area - 65 parking spaces	10
d. A sanitary dumping station for recreation vehicles	1
e. Twelve canoe campsites for river users	24
f. Five canoe landings on the river and one wayside	4
g. Three boat landings on lakes	2
h. 52 1/2 miles of snowmobile and hiking trails consisting of several loops	190
i. Cross country ski trail - 8 miles	19
Total Acres	280

For calendar year 1979, total camper days were 14,485. Based on numbers, canoe camping ranked first among campers followed in order by family camping, hunting campers, and primitive campers. Total day users, same time period, were estimated to be 82,535. The recreational pursuits ranked as follows in terms of number of users: sightseers, hunters, canoeists, swimmers, picnickers, fishermen, boaters, skiers and snowmobilers.

#### ESTIMATED PUBLIC USE TRENDS - FLAMBEAU FOREST

	<u>1979</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1960</u>
<u>Camping</u>				
Family	5,876	5,600	3,920	2,289
Primitive	709	---	---	---
Group	---	---	---	---
Canoe	6,190	1,600	1,000	500
Hunter	1,710	700	800	
<u>Day Use</u>				
Swimmers & Picnickers	12,050	4,500	3,000	
Canoeists	14,960	4,500	2,300	
Boaters, Fishermen	6,050	600	300	
Hunters	17,050	6,000	4,000	
Hikers	800	200	100	
Snowmobilers	1,165	3,000	200	
Skiers	1,710	---	---	
* Other users	<u>28,750</u>	<u>4,200</u>	<u>2,500</u>	
TOTAL	82,535	30,900	18,120	

\* Includes some casual hunting activity in conjunction with education, sightseeing, etc.

F. Land Acquisition

Total state ownership (1980) is 87,744 acres or approximately 96% of the property within project boundaries. An active land acquisition program is in effect, with emphasis on acquiring river frontage. When developed parcels are purchased, buildings are advertised for sale and after removal, the site is renovated and allowed to return to a forest condition.

G. Scientific - Educational

Within the Flambeau River Forest two scientific areas have been designated: The Flambeau River Hemlock-Hardwood Forest of 368 acres and the Lake of the Pines Conifer-Hardwood Forest of 190 acres. Both scientific areas were severely damaged in the July 4, 1977 windstorm. Approximately 175 acres within the 368 acre scientific area and 70 acres within the 190 acre scientific area were salvaged.

Research within salvaged and unsalvaged areas is proposed by the Scientific Areas Preservation Council. Within the 368 acre hemlock-hardwood scientific area, 150 acres were fenced in 1968 to exclude deer by the Council in cooperation with State Forest Administration. This fenced area was also extensively damaged by the Independence Day windstorm. Approximately 95% of the old growth timber inside the fenced area is down. The Scientific Areas Council has recommended that the entire acreage at Lake of the Pines and 368 acres of the Flambeau River Hemlock-Hardwood area be retained in Scientific Area, including the entire fenced area.

H. Original Land Use Zones

Land use zones currently in effect were established by the Conservation Commission in 1953 and published as: Wisconsin State Forests, Wisconsin Conservation Department, 1955. The description and management guidelines are summarized as follows:

1) River - Wilderness Zone

A strip of land along north and south forks of the River of a width 1/4 mile on each side as measured from the water's edge where vegetative manipulation is generally not permitted.

2) Buffer Zone

A strip 3/4 of a mile wide on each side of the River Wilderness Zone. Forestry application in this zone increases in intensity as the distance from the river zone increases.

3) Private and Commercial Recreation Zone

Existing privately owned and developed areas of high value and providing service to the public.

4) Scientific Zone

A tract of land in its natural state with the purpose being to protect or manage for preservation of native plant and animal communities.

5) Lake Zone

A strip of land 400 feet back from the water's edge on all lakes (state-owned frontage) which would allow the forces of nature to dominate.

6) Road or Forest Highway Zone

A strip 200 ft. wide on each side of highways and primary roads - to enhance the beauty and scenic value of the roadside.

7) Multiple Use Zone

The balance of land within the forest boundary not included within other preferential treatment zones.

1953 PLAN

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Acres</u>
River wilderness	12,670
Buffer zone	26,960
Private & commercial	(1,030)
Scientific	460
Lake zone	245
Road or highway zone	1,080
Multiple use zone	<u>31,078</u>
TOTAL	72,493



# EXISTING FACILITIES

## FLAMBEAU RIVER STATE FOREST

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT of NATURAL RESOURCES



### LEGEND

- CANOE CAMPSITE
- ACCESS TO LANDINGS
- FOREST HEADQUARTERS
- SUPPLIES
- RAPIDS
- CAMPING AREA
- FLAMBEAU FOREST BOUNDARY
- PICNIC AREA
- FIRE TOWER
- FEDERAL HIGHWAY
- STATE HIGHWAY
- COUNTY HIGHWAY
- TOWN & FOREST ROADS
- PORTAGE TRAIL

### SNOWMOBILE TRAIL LEGEND

#### NORTH TRAIL SYSTEM

- NORTH TRAIL 3 Mi.
- MASON CREEK LOOP 6 Mi.
- LAKE OF THE PINES LOOP 4 Mi.

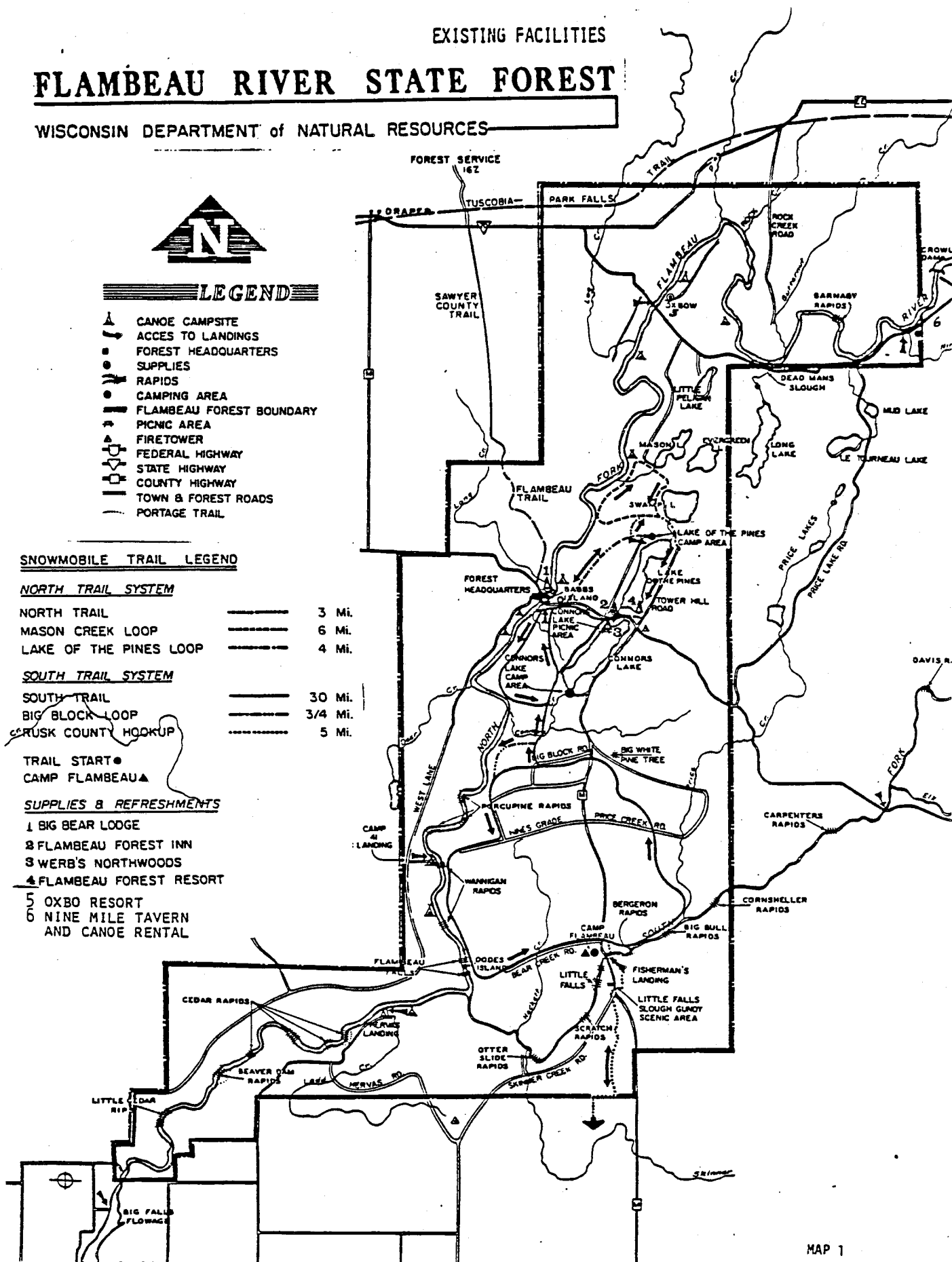
#### SOUTH TRAIL SYSTEM

- SOUTH TRAIL 30 Mi.
- BIG BLOCK LOOP 3/4 Mi.
- CORUSK COUNTY HOOKUP 5 Mi.

- TRAIL START ●
- CAMP FLAMBEAU ▲

### SUPPLIES & REFRESHMENTS

- 1 BIG BEAR LODGE
- 2 FLAMBEAU FOREST INN
- 3 WERB'S NORTHWOODS
- 4 FLAMBEAU FOREST RESORT
- 5 OXBO RESORT
- 6 NINE MILE TAVERN AND CANOE RENTAL





# PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS

## FLAMBEAU RIVER STATE FOREST

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



### LEGEND

- CANOE CAMPSITE
- ACCESS TO LANDINGS
- FOREST HEADQUARTERS
- SUPPLIES
- RAPIDS
- CAMPING AREA
- FLAMBEAU FOREST BOUNDARY
- PICNIC AREA
- FIRE TOWER
- FEDERAL HIGHWAY
- STATE HIGHWAY
- COUNTY HIGHWAY
- TOWN & FOREST ROADS
- PORTAGE TRAIL

### SNOWMOBILE TRAIL LEGEND

#### NORTH TRAIL SYSTEM

- NORTH TRAIL 3 mi.
- MASON CREEK LOOP 6 mi.
- LAKE OF THE PINES LOOP 4 mi.

#### SOUTH TRAIL SYSTEM

- SOUTH TRAIL 21 mi.
- BY BLOCK LOOP 3 1/2 mi.
- RUSH COUNTRY HOOKUP 1 mi.

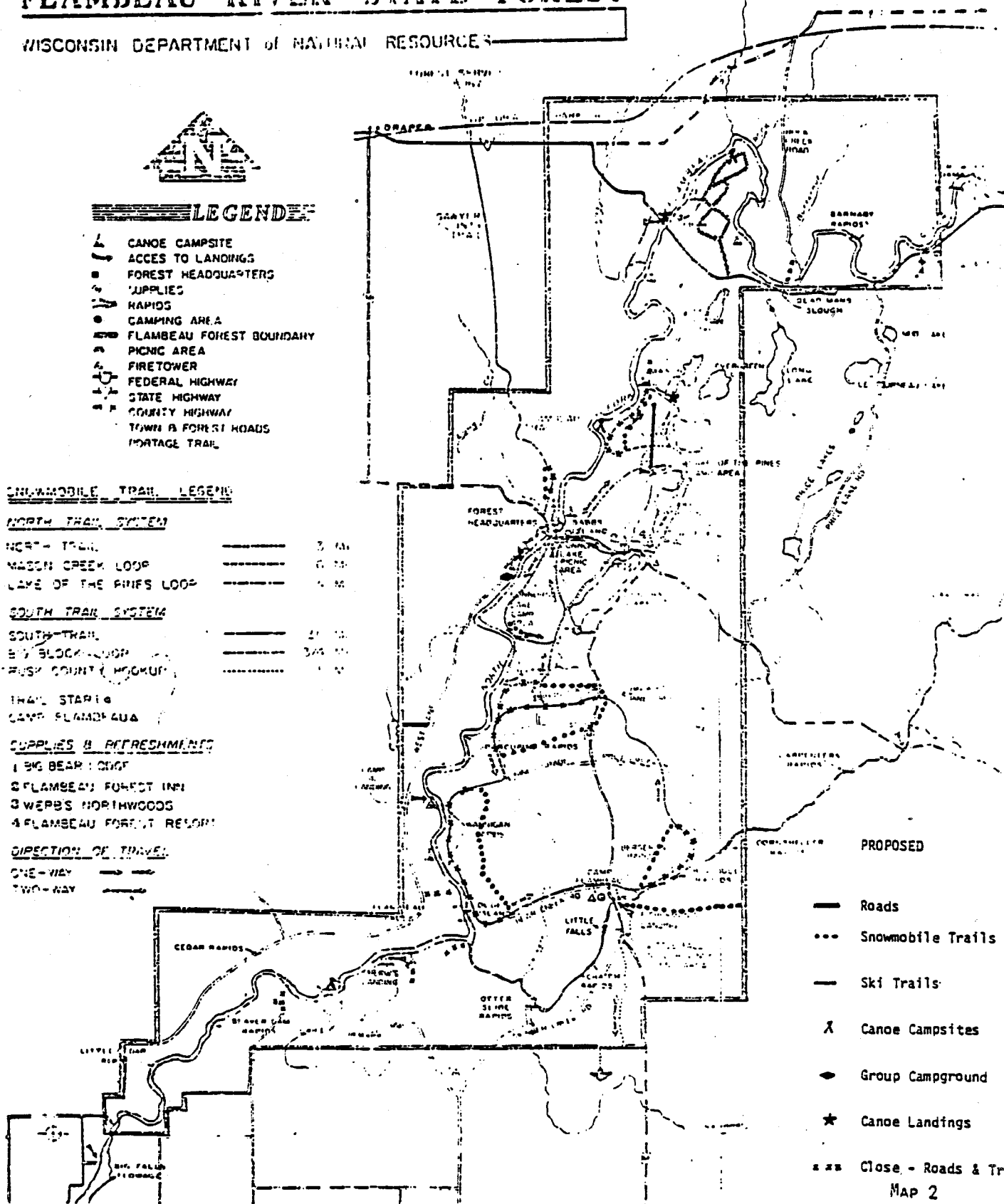
TRAIL STARTS  
CAMP FLAMBEAU

### SUPPLIES & REFRESHMENTS

- 1 BIG BEAR LODGE
- 2 FLAMBEAU FOREST INN
- 3 WEPBS NORTHWOODS
- 4 FLAMBEAU FOREST RESORT

### DIRECTION OF TRAVEL

- ONE-WAY
- TWO-WAY

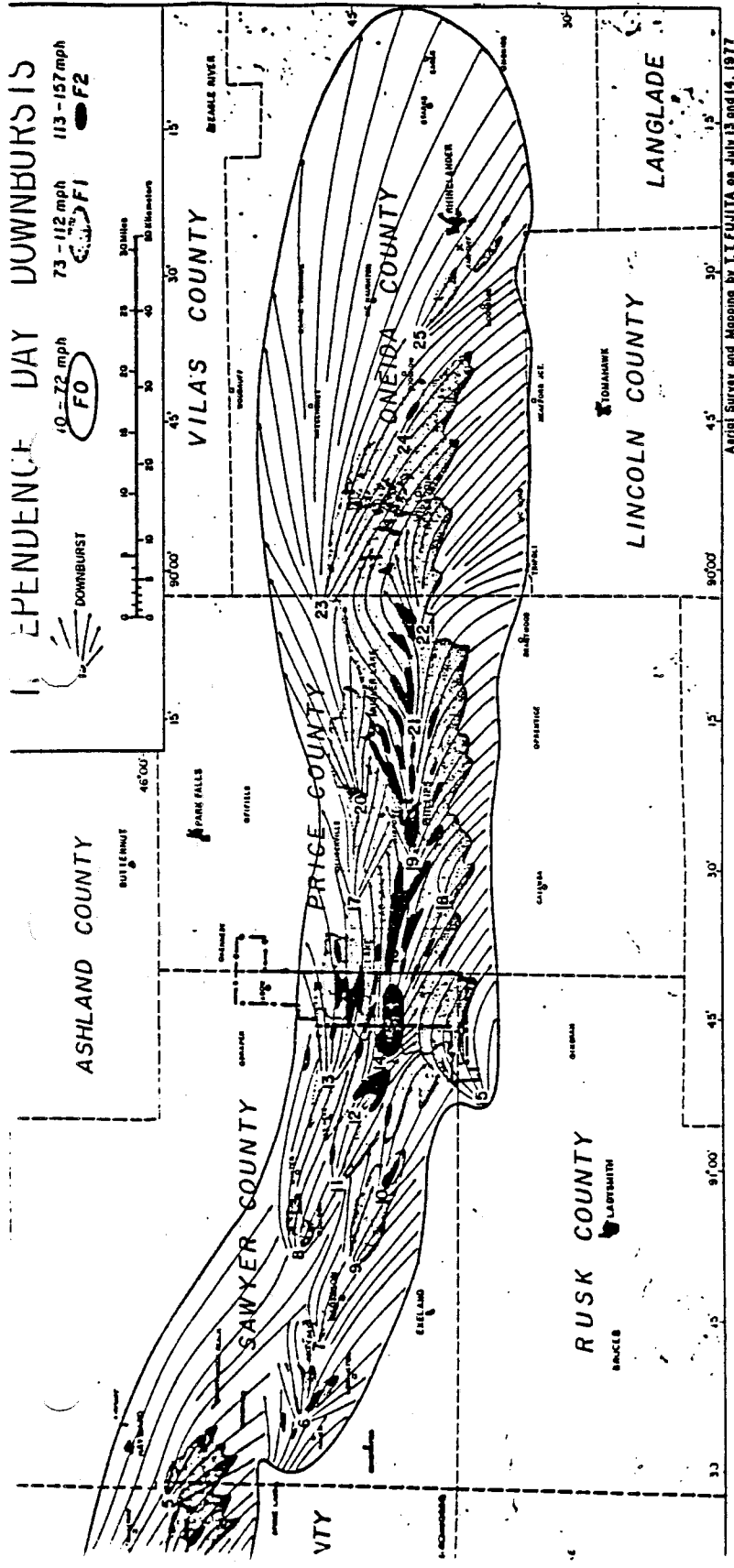


PROPOSED

- Roads
- Snowmobile Trails
- Ski Trails
- Canoe Campsites
- Group Campground
- Canoe Landings
- Close - Roads & Tr.

Map 2



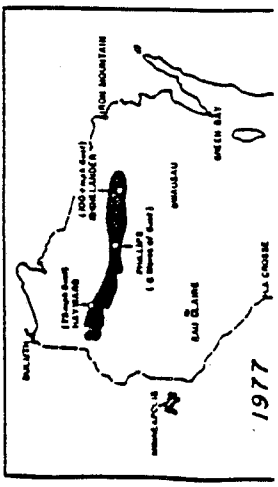


Aerial Survey and Mapping by T. T. FUJITA on July 13 and 14, 1977

On INDEPENDENCE DAY, the 4th of July 1977, a severe thunderstorm moved across Northern Wisconsin. It was reported that there were extensive areas of tree and property damage, somewhat like that of an oversized tornado.

In cooperation with the National Weather Service Milwaukee Office and the National Severe Storms Forecast Center, Fujita made an aerial survey, mapping both direction and F-scale intensity of damaging winds. No evidence of a tornado was found anywhere inside the damage swath which was 166-mile long and 17-mile wide. Instead, there were scattered local centers from which straight-line winds diverged out violently. These local wind systems were identified as downbursts and numbered 1 through 25.

Map 4



DOWNBURST  
BASE



## Appendix II - Master Plan Comments

Comments regarding the Flambeau River State Forest were received from several sources. Their comments, and DNR responses, where necessary, follow:

Mr. James Huntoon, Office of Lands, Department of Natural Resources, Madison, WI

1. Land Acquisition - Use current (1980) acreage of 87,744 acres on page 6 and page 18.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made.

2. Land Acquisition - Priority System. Use present II Priority System as outlined in Manual Code 2204.2.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made.

Mr. William Yost, Chairman, Forestry Advisory Council

In general, the plan appears to set adequate goals for the management of the resources for the benefit of all the recognized uses by the public. I appreciate and concur with the description and management goals of the River Wilderness Zone. In light of our current energy problems and the probability that energy will never again be so freely available for recreational activities as we have experienced in the past, I do feel that perhaps the recreational aspects of the plan have been over-emphasized at the expense of fiber production.

1. Class B Aesthetic Zone - page 8, item 3.  
I question the designation of all areas adjacent to secondary roads as Class B aesthetic zones. If the multiple management zone is a working forest, how are we going to educate the public on the importance of renewable resource management if we attempt to hide or cover up all timber production activities.

DNR Response: Class B zone does not cover up or hide timber production activities but does require modifications to enhance aesthetics. Plan rewritten to better explain zone management.

2. Educational Demonstration Zone - page 9, item 4.  
The Educational Demonstration Zone concept is excellent for testing and demonstration of techniques for hardwood management. Emphasis should be pointed to benefit the small private woodland owner.

DNR Response: Agreed. Plan rewritten to incorporate this idea.

3. Big Block Wilderness Zone - page 10, item 7.

In view of the devastated state of the "Big Block", I question the practicability of maintaining the entire present acreage as wilderness. I think the boundaries could be redrawn to reduce the size of this zone.

DNR Response: The Big Block area has historic value. Governor's Task Force Committee designated this area.

4. Wild Area and Wild Lakes - page 11.

In consideration of the large acreage in Wilderness and Wild Lake zones I feel that the 5,172 acres set aside as wild zone is much too large for such a restrictive purpose.

DNR Response: Planning committee feels the areas meet the definitions of these zones. The amount of acreage set aside in these areas have been determined after many years of public and private interaction and are considered necessary to meet the public need.

5. Habitat Preservation Zone - page 12, item 12b.

I suggest you correct or restate this sentence. Fifteen chains is not 1,320 feet.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made, fifteen changed to twenty.

The above comments reflect my general concern that the needs and desires of the public are changing and that renewable resources are to assume paramount importance in the foreseeable future. Basically, I fear that too little emphasis is being placed on fiber production in this plan and urge that the multiple management be enlarged wherever possible.

Richard W. Dexter, The State Historical Society of Wisconsin

1. We have reviewed the Concept Element for the Flambeau River State Forest Master Plan, and are concerned that no mention is made of the forest's cultural resources.

Very little of northwestern Wisconsin has been systematically surveyed for archeological sites; virtually none of the land within Flambeau River State Forest has. Our records, however, do contain a reference to a substantial prehistoric archeological site at the north end of Connor's Lake in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 22, T38N, R3W. This site, Sy-6, is described as including burial mounds, a village, garden beds, a cemetery and a trading post. It was reported to the State Historical Society in the early 1900's, but no one from the Society has revisited the site to determine the accuracy of the report of the site's present condition.



Undoubtedly there are many more sites within the state forest. A recently completed study of cultural resources within Chequamegon National Forest found the national forest to contain an extensive number of archeological sites. The greatest concentration of sites were discovered in areas sharing a number of similar topographical and environmental characteristics. The archeologists referred to these as "Zone 1," and recommended that "any land surface alterations which are planned for Zone 1 areas take place only after intensive and systematic inventory for archeological sites."

A large proportion of Flambeau River State Forest is environmentally analogous to Zone 1-type areas, including places within the state forest identified in the Concept Element as the location of future campsites, day use areas, trails, roads, and administrative facilities. We recommend that prior to any ground disturbing activities in the state forest our office be consulted to determine whether an archeological survey of the affected area is warranted.

In addition to prehistoric sites, the Chequamegon study found that the national forest contained a large number of historic sites dating to the early lumber industry, including lumber camps, logging dams, sawmills, narrow gauge railways, etc. These sites are also important as they can provide information which could contribute to our understanding of this important phase of Wisconsin's history. These sites, like prehistoric sites, should be considered important cultural resources to be preserved and protected.

Should you have any question on this matter, please call me at (608) 262-2732.

DNR Response: This concept element of the Master Plan addresses the basic concept of protection of historic and archeological sites. It is agreed that the State Historical Society should be notified when any major development is planned. The procedure for carrying this out should be developed in the implementation section of the Master Plan.

H. S. Druckenmiller, Bureau of Environmental Impact, Department of Natural Resources, Madison WI

Enclosed is our review of the Flambeau River State Forest Master Plan. Many of the comments are oriented toward meeting the impact assessment requirements of the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service (HCERS) so that the project will be eligible for LAWCON funding. The Bureau of Environmental Impact serves as the impact liaison to HCERS. Since the Master Plan is part of, and the basis for, the LAWCON assessment to be sent to HCERS, it is important to remove potential problems that could delay or prevent federal funding for the Forest.

### Specific Comments

1. Pages 2 and 16-17. The objectives 2, 4 and 5 on page 2, when totalled, indicate that a total of 231,200 recreation days of various activities will be "accommodated." It is assumed that "accommodate" is used in the sense of "to provide for." It is unclear how this level of activity will be provided for.

DNR Response: The word accommodate is misleading in its present use. A footnote has been added to the Master Plan to explain that this is the Department's best estimate of carrying capacity and that development will occur based on need as explained on page 4d.

2. Will the proposed recreation development expand the recreation use of the project?

DNR Response: Yes, as explained in #1 above.

3. Does the figure represent projected use levels? If so, is it a projection for the next 10 years as the Master Planning Handbook directs?

DNR Response: No. It is an estimate of carrying capacity.

4. On page 17, total 1979 recreation use is 97,020 days. Does the concept plan mean that recreation use will increase two and on-half fold in the next decade?

DNR Response: No. Explained in #1 above.

5. Pages 16-17. Current fishing and hunting levels are listed as 8,500 fisher days and 33,200 hunter days. The table on the same page lists 1979 use as 6,050 boater/fisher days and 17,050 hunter days. This discrepancy should be cleared up or explained.

DNR Response: Agreed. These tables are confusing and have been deleted. The table at the bottom of page 17 supplies the figures needed.

6. Page 4. If a wetlands inventory is going to be conducted, we suggest it use the Department's Wisconsin Wetland Inventory classification so that the data can be used in the ongoing state inventory.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made.

7. Page 6 (E) and 18. Nowhere is it stated in the concept plan what the total gross acreage of the project is, how much land

is left to buy or how much acreage is in each Priority. This is an HCRS requirement. The Priority System should follow Manual Code 2204.2, which now has only Priority I and II. An additional graphic should be added showing the acquisition priorities.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made.

8. Page 7. "Endangered Species Protection and Surveys" has been omitted from the Wildlife Management Summary and should be added.

DNR Respons: Agreed. Change made.

9. Pages 8-10. The concept plan does not follow Manual Code 2105.1 and instead uses a new set of land use zone terms not comparable elsewhere. As a result, full and clear definitions are not provided, in contrast to Manual Code 2105.1. In addition to the confusion this can cause, the Master Plan is to serve as the basis of the environmental assessment for LAWCON (HCRS). In order to avoid funding problems in preparing an acceptable assessment for HCRS, the following changes are recommended:

1. Change "Multiple Use Zone" to Forest Production Area.
2. Change "Class A Aesthetic Zone" to Scenic Area, or indicate it as a special subdivision of Forest Production Area.
3. Indicate "Class B Aesthetic Zone" as a special subdivision of Forest Production Area.
4. Change "River Wilderness Zone" and "Big Block Wilderness Zone" to Public Use Natural Areas.

Apparently, these "Wilderness Zones" do not conform to Manual Code 2105.1 definition or the general concept of a Wilderness Area because of the linear form of the "River Wilderness" crossed by roads and utility corridors, and the small acreage (1,354 ac.) and minimal scenic and recreational value (due to the blowdown) of the "Big Block Wilderness." These zones do conform directly with the Public Use Natural Area definition. The Northern Highland Master Plan's land use zones were changed to conform to Manual Code without any apparent problems, and with a definite improvement regarding its relation to HCRS needs. There does not seem to be any reason why this can't be done with Flambeau. We understand that the Master Planning Handbook's land use zones may not conform entirely to state forests. If that is the case, we suggest that it be changed to correct this.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made in part. The "River Wilderness" and "Big Block Wilderness" will retain their historic designations.

10. Page 11, Wild Areas. The description "Large areas where natural forces predominate" is misleading to the reader since extensive timber harvesting and other management will continue.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made.

11. Page 11 (10d). Remove Swamp Lake, since it is a Wilderness Lake, not Wild Lake.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made.

12. Page 12 (12). Add the threatened species nesting site for red shouldered hawk, located southeast of Swamp Lake.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made, page 12 (11). However, specific reference to this nesting site and how it effects management practices should be a part of the implementation plan.

13. Graphics. None of the four maps are numbered or labelled as referred to in the Table of Contents and text. For Appendix Map 3, add Multiple Use (Forest Production) Area as white.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made.

Mr. Edward Hines, Executive Vice President, Edward Hines Lumber Co.

1. Earlier this week I spoke to Mr. Erickson regarding the Master Plan Review currently underway for the Flambeau River State Forest. Mr. Erickson advised me to write to you regarding my views on this matter.

I know this area extremely well. Both I, personally, and the Edward Hines Lumber Co. own property on Mason and Evergreen Lakes. I love this beautiful northwoods country and its fine people.

In reading the information available to the public, it seems the current interest of the Department of Natural Resources is to gradually eliminate private ownership of property within the forest. I feel this would be a tragic mistake which would impact upon tax generation, employment and the general economic health of the region. While we own substantial acreage on the two above mentioned lakes, we have maintained the vast majority of this acreage in its natural state. Truly, the area has had the best of both worlds--the maintenance of the forest beauty and the generation of ever-increasing tax income. Certainly, the private sector must be considered.

DNR Response: Land purchases within the Flambeau River State Forest are on a willing seller/willing buyer basis. Purchases of private lands within the forest boundaries reduce administrative costs and guarantee long-range management in the best interest of the state as a whole. The impact upon tax generation is minimal according to a University of Wisconsin study done by Barrows and Rosner (1976).

2. The Plan for the two lakes is certainly contradictory. In one section the stated intent is to designate these as "wild lakes" while earlier stating a plan to construct a boat landing on one of the lakes. There certainly is no need to change the land designation, plus a boat landing on Mason Lake would disrupt the natural ecology the Plan presumes to protect.

DNR Response: This development is a permitted practice under the definition of wild lakes, and if the property were to be purchased, the present undesigned landing on Mason Lake would be improved.

The Edward Hines Lumber Co. and I have been good citizens and good neighbors in Wisconsin for many years, and in the company's case virtually this entire century.

Since World War II, we have been terribly concerned about the economy in Northern Wisconsin. Job opportunities are becoming more and more scarce. By further discouraging home ownership and jobs in the area, it would be another disservice to the people. Again, you should not forget the tax impact.

Dale H. Kline, Citizen

1. I agree on the necessity of 13,560 acres of river wilderness (page 6) for protecting the Flambeau River. I cannot, however, support the large acreages for "Big Block Wilderness" (page 10) and "Wild Areas" (page 11). We do not gain anything by permitting the huge blocks to be set aside for "solitude" (page 11). "Primitive Recreation" (page 11) does not need an unnecessary large amount of forest.

DNR Response: The Governor's Task Force Committee has designated the Big Block Public Use Natural Area. The other wild areas have been designated after exchange of ideas from many public and private concerns.

2. Editorial Comments. The balance between wilderness and forestry must be carefully weighed. Using the Flambeau for a sustained yield of forest products must be considered a primary objective, but not without some management for wildlife and recreation.

Additional comment. In this light, I believe the concept plan is somewhat heavy to the preservation side, rather than in balance with conservation.

DNR Response: Each of these public uses has been considered in the plan and, after several years of public and private interaction, the task force feels the various public interests are in balance.

Carm Zuraski, 9 Mile tavern owner

1. I have reviewed your Master Plan Review of the Flambeau River State Forest. I think it's just great and I am really delighted with your ideas. I am especially interested in the proposed public canoe landing at Oxbo where about 50% of my canoes end. A nice one day trip for the novice or anyone from 9 mile to Oxbo. Sure would be great if there was a public phone.

DNR Response: Possible consideration in the implementation plan.

2. In your plans I believe you have overlooked one important item. Something should and must be done at Deadmans Slough. This is a popular spot from spring till late fall. It is a pick up and put in spot for canoes and fisherman. It is merely a widening in the road with just a few feet to spare that slants right down into the river. There are always people fishing there. It is an extremely hazardous place.

DNR Response: Agreed. Addressed in the Master Plan.

Virginia Duwe, Oxbo Resort

1. Flambeau River State Forest Map does not include Oxbo Resort! We are here and ready! Also, Werb's Northwoods is no longer in business and should be eliminated.

DNR Response: These comments do not relate to the concept plan, but are being addressed in the brochure presently being drafted.

2. We need improved boat landings overall.

DNR Response: Agreed. Access development is addressed in the plan with Headquarter, Oxbo, and Beaver Damn landings listed. Maintenance of existing landings is a continuous process to be included in the implementation plan.

3. Additional Comments: Since campers (canoeists) must take their refuse with them, it might be a good idea to supply depots (such as ours) with bright and large trash bags to send with the travelers to remind them to keep the Flambeau clean?

DNR Response: This or other possible solutions to litter could be addressed in the implementation plan.

Lawrence Barringer, Winter, WI

1. Page 3 - Timber Management. Place more emphasis on clear cuts of one or two acres rather than on selective harvest when cutting northern hardwoods; it would seem that this would be more beneficial to wildlife and less damaging to the forest.

DNR Response: Selective marking of the hardwoods is an accepted management technique to maintain a healthy, productive stand. Removal of small groups of pathologically weakend trees may, in fact, create clear cuts of less than an acre. Cutting techniques are governed by the Department's Silvicultural and Aesthetics Handbook.

2. Editorial Comments, Page 9: Since the "River Wilderness Zone" can never be a true wilderness, but at least a relatively wild area, it would seem reasonable to make some effort at planting trees, most especially hemlock and white pine in storm damaged areas, possibly utilizing volunteers for the work.

DNR Response: This is not consistant with the intent of the public use natural area.

3. Due to the increasing litter problem along the river, maybe it would be worthwhile to cut some stencils that say something like, "Please Take Your Garbage Out With You", and give them to the canoe rental people and ask them to paint it on each canoe, or pay some CETA kids to paint it on. Might help a little.

When it comes time to print up new brochures, try not printing "Wilderness Lake" next to Swamp Lake and try not putting up a sign saying "This Way To The Wilderness Lake". That would save about 5,000 "user days" of activity in the area.

DNR Response: These suggestions, if considered as possible solutions, would be a portion of the implementaion plan.

Henry W. Kolka, Wild Resources Advisory Council

1. I am impressed with the intensity and precision exhibited by the Task Force in analyzing and planning the management and use of the State Forest block. In the opinion of the reviewer there are only a few "soft spots" in an otherwise most exceptional management plan. The WRAC urges that these voids and low visibility areas receive better recognition and emphasis in the implementation phase of the master plan and more center stage position in the next property planning period.

"Soft Spots"

1. With increased social unrest, future urban stresses and the acceleration of the environmental learning index, of the future general public, the educational counterpart of the nonconsumptive user will begin to match the recreational component. Present trends indicate that more and more people will seek the areas of wild resources to enjoy and appreciate the sights, smells, and sounds of Wisconsin's outdoors.
  - a. The WRAC recommends the inclusion of and educational between recreational and activities. Goal statement, page 2.
  - b. Page 8, paragraph 1--Multiple Management Zone. WRAC recommends the insertion of and education between the words recreation and opportunities.

DNR Response: Change made.

2. Environmental Inventories. Many of the forest users that seek out this project area, purely for aesthetic and nature learning experiences find certain props very necessary. The most essential props are the inventory lists of the following: a) nongame animals (birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and conspicuous invertebrates); b) colorful and conspicuous plant species; and c) most accessible and spectacular glacial landforms. For example more people should be provided an opportunity to thrill to the bell-like tones of a wood thrush, the wilderness ghostly sound of a loon or a view of the magnificent glacial sculptured esker. Usable nature inventories will not only gain greater public interest, but it will also arouse greater support for the department.

The WRAC endorses the Master Plan Concept Element of the Flambeau River State Forest in its entirety, but wishes to make special acknowledgement or questions the following:

- a. Page 3, section C--Wildlife Management. Very commendable to recognize the maintenance of quality habitat for game and nongame wildlife.



- b. Page 4, item 5--Survey 5. The WRAC urges the identification of nongame species in the item listed as Others.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made.

- c. Page 10--Big Block Wilderness. WRAC endorses the concept and justification listed by the project planners.
- d. Page 10--Management Guidelines--Swamp Lake. WRAC recommends that the 150 acre old hemlock stand in section 12 receive special designation. It could very well be designated as natural area.

DNR Response: This area has been thinned three times, has existing roads, and is planned for treatment by "Big Tree Silviculture" techniques. This technique will encourage maintenance of the large hemlock and will give us the opportunity in years to come to attempt regeneration of this type. Hemlock reproduction is absent in a majority of our natural stands. Through management, reproduction can be obtained. This, increases the chances of maintaining this timber type on the forest.

- e. Page 17--Current Use is Estimated to be next to the last listing in the column. Listed are 400 predator hunter days. There is no printed discussion on this item. What predators are endorsed for hunting? Please explain.

DNR Response: Those predators which are allowed by state statute.

- f. Page 18--Land Acquisition. WRAC endorses the Task Force's resolve to complete the acquisition of the Flambeau River State Forest block and the Council recommends this to the NRB.
- g. Summary Comment. Excellent chart presentation. The July 4/77 storm, impact and aftermath plans are likewise excellent.

John Wolters, Wild Resources Advisory Council

- 1. Page 2. It would be helpful to clearly identify the proposed objectives as compared to current management objectives. Proposed outputs are shown, but they are not compared to current outputs. Are these outputs based on historic production, or are they based on the land's capability to produce? The cost of implementing this plan and producing the outputs would be helpful to be shown.

DNR Response: The objectives shown on page 2 are based upon our best estimate of the lands ability to produce. Current figures are on page 17.

2. Page 2. The terms "user days" and "man days" are both used. Is there a difference between the two terms?

DNR Response: Agreed, the terms are confusing. Changes made.

3. Page 5. No family campgrounds are proposed for development. Canoe campsites and a group campsite are proposed. Is this type of overnight camping development consistent with the needs and demands of forest users?

DNR Response: Campground development is adjacent to the Flambeau River where increased use has demonstrated the need. Canoe campsites are analogous to family campgrounds which are accessible by automobile.

4. Page 6. State ownership of the Forest is presently 94 percent. Is the DNR proposing to acquire 100 percent? The plan should show the total proposed ownership by the DNR.

DNR Response: Agree. Changes made.

5. Page 8. Timber cutting within 400 feet of the shorelines is proposed to be limited to enhance aesthetics. Rather than selecting an arbitrary distance such as 400 feet, it would be consistent with other statements on this page to limit timber cutting within the "seen" area or "area of effective visibility".

DNR Response: The 400 foot designation limits how close strict silvicultural practices can be applied, but does not limit the restrictive treatment to the same 400 foot zone.

6. Page 9. Will only hand tools be allowed for fire suppression within the wilderness zone, or will mechanized equipment be used?

DNR Response: Standard fire suppression techniques will be applied including the use of mechanical equipment.

7. Page 10. Will the obliterated roads be retained as trails for hiking?

DNR Response: No. The purpose of this area includes the intent to have minimal human manipulation.

8. It appears as if many miles of roads will be needed to administer the 60,000 acres of Multiple Management Zone. No mention is made of this need for roads, or the design standard for these roads.

DNR Response: Roads are constructed by logging contractors in consultation with the forest superintendant. The Department of Natural Resources does not have a policy of locating, surveying, engineering, and drawing up contract specifications on all logging roads built.

H. Grant Clark, Citizen

I am informed that a Master Plan Review is currently underway for the Flambeau River State Forest. This is an area that I visit and enjoy annually, especially reflecting upon its natural state. I am most particularly familiar with the Mason and Evergreen Lakes and the unusual and distinguishing natural beauty of the area. Private ownership should be commended for its commitment to quality maintainance of these areas.

As I read the Plan; its intent to identify these lakes as "wild lakes", while at the same time proposing to build a boat landing, seems contradictory. The natural environment and ecology the Plan presumes to protect would be compromised by the construction of a man-made boat landing. In addition, removal from the tax rolls of this property would obviously have a negative impact on state revenue. Continued private ownership of the land and the consequent economic stimulus should be important in your evaluation of the proper use of the Flambeau River State Forest.

DNR Response: The existing use is increasing on the present landing. A controlled development and enforcement plan will prevent degradation. The impact upon tax generation is minimal according to a University of Wisconsin study done by Barrows and Rosmer (1976).

D. J. Mackie, Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Parks and Recreation, Madison, WI

1. In addition to outlining silvicultural practices, procedures and methods, you should have an estimate of public use, all activities included in the plan.

DNR Response: Major public use trends are already incorporated in the Master Plan.

2. The locator map is not labeled nor is it listed in the Table of Contents.

DNR Response: Agreed. Changes made.

3. Current (8/12/80) ownership figure of 87,743.8 acres should replace 1970 figure on pages 6 and 18.

DNR Response: Agreed. Changes made.

4. Page 12, item #13, Historical Zone. Should also include archaeological. Purpose shall then read "to set aside, enhance and protect sites or features of historic and archaeological significance."

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made.

5. Map #2 in the Appendix is difficult to read.

DNR Response: Agreed. Will be improved.

6. The forest should be labeled to make Map #4 more effective. This is very interesting information.

DNR Response: Map currently illustrates forest boundary with ownerships and land use areas indicated.

John Wolter, Forest Supervisor, Chequamegon Nat'l Forest

About a year ago we discussed our thoughts with you concerning the feasibility of a long-distance trail that would connect the Ice Age National Scenic Trail with the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. This would permit a hiker from the Milwaukee-Madison area to hike almost the full length of the State, ending at Lake Superior. For such a trail to become a reality, we stated that it would have to cross not only the National Forest, but would cross the Flambeau State Forest, Price and Bayfield County Forests, and the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. Of the approximate total of 175 miles of trail, only 10 miles would have to be on private land or follow town roads. The rest would be over lands of various public agencies.

Even though we are still in the planning and feasibility determining stage, we were wondering if you felt that your plan might want to allude to our proposal for a connecting trail between the two National Scenic Trails; and also the possibility of extending this trail to Lake Superior to connect the North Country National Scenic Trail with the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

Because of transfers and Land Management Planning, we have not made as rapid headway to date as we would have like. However, in FY 1982 we hope to have planning money available so that we can go foreward with the Environmental Assessment and, hopefully, some trail location, if the project is finally acceptable.

DNR Response: Agreed. Changes made.

Comments From Public Informational MeetingAlan Blomberg, Citizen

Alan Blomberg asked if there are any plans for clearcutting in northern hardwood stands in the forest. Klug responded that most of the cutting in the hardwood stands would be selective. He explained that clearcutting in hardwoods is not considered a "silviculturally" sound practice by the Department. Blomberg asked if the Department planned to experiment with such a practice. Kubiske said the DNR is trying to emphasize practical rather than experimental techniques.

DNR Response: Provided at meeting. Cutting techniques are governed by the Department's Silvicultural and Aesthetics Handbook.

Ron Herman, Citizen

Ron Herman, Phillips, said he was concerned about the wilderness area designation. He said the wilderness area designation would prevent the utilization of forest products which play a vital role in the areas economy. A number of others in the audience appeared to agree. But Louis Cadish, Butternut, said that the recreational values of the wilderness areas would also benefit the local tourist industry.

DNR Response: The wilderness area designation has already reduced from 3/4 of a mile to 1/4 of a mile. Addressed in the Master Plan.

Carl Heizler, Citizen

Carl Heizler, a guide from Phillips, said he believed the plan was "geared" to the canoeist and felt that more consideration should be given to the fisherman. Heizler complained that there were no access sites on the river where a person could back a vehicle up to the river for launching a boat. He said that this was unfair to the elderly and the handicapped.

DNR Response: Limiting access sites is a control measure to public use by trying to prevent overuse and misuse of the resource while still trying to retain aesthetic qualities and the wild atmosphere of the riverway (reference page 6, adm #1).

Connie Flygt, Citizen

Connie Flygt, Park Falls, said she was concerned because there was no provision for private ownership (within the Forest's boundaries) in the

Master Plan. Flygt, who owns a seasonal dwelling in the Forest, asked about the difference between a wild river and a wilderness zone. Kubiske said that the principle difference between the two classifications is that a "wild river" allows no development within 150 feet of the shoreline, while a "wilderness zone" allows no development within one-quarter mile of the shoreline. Kubiske emphasized that the "wilderness zones" established in the Master Plan applied only to state-owned property.

DNR Response: Land purchase within the Flambeau River State Forest are on a willing seller/willing buyer basis. Purchase of private lands within the forest boundary reduce administrative costs and guarantee long-range management in the best interest of the state as a whole. Wild and Wilderness Areas are described in the Master Plan.

#### General Comments

- A. Herman asked if blocking roads within the Forest would limit hunting in certain areas of the Forest. Flygt said she was concerned that blocking roads would hinder garbage pick-up in the area.

DNR Response: Blocking roads will limit the distances hunters can drive into special land use areas, but does not prohibit use of the area by hunters. Blocked roads can be utilized by the Department for maintenance and administrative purposes.

- B. A number of people asked about preserving historical sites in the Forest. Gottwald suggested that these people contact the State Historical Society.

DNR Response: Provided for in the Master Plan changes.

- C. One man asked why largemouth bass and bluegills were not stocked in Pelican Lake. Bever responded that the lake is being managed as a walleye lake.

DNR Response: This is an implementation question answered by Area Fish Manager, Gerry Bever.

#### Connie Flygt, Park Falls, WI

1. The total lack of communications with residents and seasonal users of the forest and other knowledgeable people of the area, (the lack of notification of the availability of the

environmental impact statement or the public informational hearing or request for consultation), I feel is irresponsible and ignorant. The people who live in the forest and surrounding areas have a common sense knowledge of the forest that is an untapped resource that should be used.

Page 2, Goals and Objectives. ". . .accommodation of recreational activities. . ." Objective 1. "Establish a 13,560 acre wilderness zone extending one-quarter mile on either side of the North and South Forks of the Flambeau River. . ." The establishment of a wilderness zone along the river will destroy the opportunities of the young, old and handicapped to enjoy the river because of lack of access and take out points. The Flambeau River is a working river. In addition to the hydroelectric dams that have made it the good river that it is, it has been an excellent river for Cub Scouts, Boys Clubs, Girls Clubs and other groups that are not experienced enough for "white water". By implementing the wilderness guidelines you will remove the peace of mind of any counsellor that is responsible for the health and safety of his charges. If there are but few access roads, few places where one can get help, a road to walk out or a way to get messages in, it will no longer be a river for youngsters, the elderly or the handicapped. Again, it will be used for a few special interest groups. I think this is extremely unwise. This river is unique and uses should be planned to enhance it, not change it or make it inaccessible.

DNR Response: After considering the comments of many private citizens and private and public organizations, it has been decided that the Public Use Natural Area designation would best preserve the natural character of the river.

Editorial Comments:

2. Page 6, E Land Acquisition. The State of Wisconsin already owns 94% of the land. Does the State need to buy more just to block in (Priority I) at a time when the budget is already strained? The environmental impact statement (page 10) refers to the displacement of approximately 135 residents. Is this necessary? I do not believe that it is.

DNR Response: Purchase of private lands within the forest boundary reduces administrative costs and guarantees the management of the resource in the best interest of the state as a whole. The plan explains that purchases will be made on a willing buyer/willing seller basis.

3. Page 6, F, Administrative 2., Regulation of river based recreation.  
 "Until such time that the number of watercraft can be limited.  
 . ." This whole paragraph seems to negate recreation and  
 implies that at some future date watercraft may not be permitted,  
 or the use of motors may be restricted. I would hate to see  
 this happen.

DNR Response: In order to manage this property to preserve its  
 natural character, its ability to withstand certain  
 public uses must be determined. When the carrying  
 capacity of the resource is approached, regulations  
 are the only means by which ever-increasing use and  
 abuse can be controlled.

4. The environmental impact statement says "Wood fiber production  
 for industry will be adversely affected by establishment of  
 restrictive special use zones." In a time when the demand for  
 wood products is increasing and the supply diminishing, it  
 seems unwise to remove anymore area from timber production.  
 In the 1970's, before the energy crisis was upon us, the  
 political thrust was for preservation. In the 1980's, because  
 of changing situations, it is time to rethink our positions  
 and be more cautious in making irreversible decisions. As was  
 proven by the "blowdown", trees cannot be preserved forever.

DNR Response: Timber production still plays a major roll on the  
 Flambeau River State Forest. There is also need for  
 the various special use areas. The management  
 decisions of this plan are not irreversible and if  
 the social-economic considerations change  
 substantially, revision is possible.

5. Page 11, Scientific Areas. How many scientific studies have  
 been done on this parcel in the last thirty years?

DNR Response: 1968 Roger Anderson - Studies on soils, herbicides  
 vegetation and the forest overstay.

1978 Charles Canham - Study on catastrophic  
 windthrow.

1978 University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee - Study on  
 generation after the July 4, 1977 windstorm.

Continuous use of the area as an outdoor classroom,  
 particularly by University of Wisconsin-Madison.



6. Page 12, Historical Zone: The destruction of an old logging camp in the spring of 1980, consisting of bunk house, cook house and office, belies all of the words in the environmental impact statement and the Master Plan regarding the concern of the Department of Natural Resources for historical sites.

DNR Response: Revisions have been made to this Master Plan and comments have been included in Appendix II to provide for review of possible Archeological and Historical Sites before major development is undertaken. This procedure will be part of the implementation plan.

7. Map 1, Existing Facilities. Hopefully, this is just inaccurate, not intentional. It does not have the Oxbo Resort as a supply depot. Neither does it have Nine Mile Tavern and Canoe Rental. It does have the Werb's Northwoods, but I understand that is out of business.

DNR Response: Agreed. Changes made.

8. Map 3, Proposed Land Use Zones and Ownership. The designation of Mason Lake as a Wild Lake when the frontage is totally in private ownership, continues the theme of this document, to completely disregard those people who pay the taxes, enjoy the forest with their families and friends, and have kept their property and the river desirable enough that someone else wants it.

DNR Response: The plan points out that the various restrictive areas apply only to Department lands and do not effect management of private lands.

At the hearing it was stated that trash receptacles would not be placed at campgrounds in the hope that people who brought trash in would take it out. In my estimation this is truly naïve.

Although the Flambeau River has been designated by the Natural Resources Board as a Wild River it has not been so designated by the Legislature. The River Wilderness guidelines are more restrictive than those of a Wild River. The implementation of projects by administrative rule rather than Statutes does not give the people involved an opportunity to be heard.

On a positive tone, I believe the concept of a multipurpose forest with good timber management and ample provision for the use of the forest by a broad range of the people of Wisconsin is a good one. I believe this document stresses much more than necessary the removal of the forest from its primary use of silviculture to that of managing minimal amounts of timber, and it certainly will limit public use instead of making it more available to a broad range of the public. Therefore, I believe this Master Plan needs quite a bit more study and revision.

Wildlife Management Comments

1. The proposed intensity of management approaches that of a part property. Poor writing and practically no editing.

DNR Response: The unique nature of the resource and public input has governed the management direction of the property.

2. Objective #1 not properly written and in addition, it does not relate to the goals.

DNR Response: Editorial changes have been made to the objective to clarify it's meaning. The Task Force believes that the objective does relate to the goal.

3. Land use designations do not comply with the Master Planning Handbook.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made.

4. Annual trail mowing is unnecessary. We suggest every other year.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made.

5. Further trail development should be a forest management activity.

DNR Response: This may be true on some, but not all trails. There are benefits for both programs involved. Decisions should be a part of the implementation plan.

6. Species surveys specific to this property are unnecessary.

DNR Response: Agreed.

7. The A-B-C, 1-2-3 format is rather confusing.

DNR Response: Disagree.

8. I consider C and D, page 16 much too brief for the size of this area. A minimum of two additional paragraphs are needed.

DNR Response: This information is intended to be a brief overview of the program with detail provided in the implementation plan.

9. Hunter use estimates (page 17) could be refined.

DNR Response: Current use information at the bottom of page 17 derived from the 1979 Recreation Report is our best available information, and the table at the top of the page will be deleted.

10. Many minor editorial changes were suggested.

DNR Response: These changes were reviewed and most changes were agreed upon by the Task Force. A detailed copy of remarks is on file.

Charles Higgs, District Director, Department of Natural Resources  
Green Bay, WI

1. Page 2, Objective #1. Rivers should be distinguished as North Fork Flambeau, South Fork Flambeau and the Flambeau River.

DNR Response: Terminology discussed and decided to leave as is.

2. Page 2, Objective #4. I suggest to strike man, visits, hunting days, hunting. This all seems a bit confusing. Is there a difference between man days, hunter visits, hunters, days, hunting?

DNR Response: Agreed. Changes made to implement the word "user days".

3. Page 3, Fish Management, #2. Does each body get 3,860 or are they divided?

DNR Response: Stocking divided between the lakes. Detailed in other portions of the Master Plan.

4. Page 4, #3. What is the long-range objective for trails? Seems you would reach a saturation point and ability to maintain, mow, reshape, and seed.

DNR Response: This objective is for a 10 year period as outlined in the Master Plan Handbook.

5. Page 4, #4. "Results will be weather dependent as it affects yarding potential." What results?

DNR Response: Meaningless statement, deleted from Master Plan.

6. Page 4 and 5. Pellet counts - obsolete, include agency.

DNR Response: Agreed. Changes made.

7. Page 4, #D. Opening statement needs some revision since roads and administration are also under D heading. Also, Appendix II is not clear. Is it a map or what? Very difficult to follow and understand with what's available.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made.

8. Page 7, Wildlife Management. Thirty miles/year for trail seeding should be eight-ten.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made.

9. Page 7, Wildlife Management. Surveys spring and fall pellet counts outdated.

DNR Response: Spring and fall pellet counts changed to fall trail counts and agency during deer season.

10. Page 8, 3. Don't understand what you plan to do other than signs to explain management practices?

DNR Response: Educational activities are provided for in the Goal and Objectives, page 2.

11. Page 9, #4 Educational Demonstration Area. Change the statement "Formerly a tract of old growth northern hardwood timber lying east of County Trunk M, the zone has been totally devastated by the windstorm of July 4, 1977." to "A tract of old growth northern hardwood timber lying east of County Trunk M was formerly designated as an Educational Area. The area was totally devastated by the windstorm of July 4, 1977."

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made.

12. Page 9, #5, Wilderness Zones. Unbalanced eliminate by label and define first five parts.

DNR Response: Agreed. Change made.

13. Page 9, 6 and 2, "with a minimum of 400 feet setback." Unclear as to whether it applies just to group camp or regular sites. Probably unrealistic.

DNR Response: Changes have been made to clarify the 400 feet setback.

Gib Stroud, Vice President, Flambeau Nordic Ski Club

Following are the ideas that our group agreed upon with some elaboration.

1. There is a need for cross country ski trails in the Flambeau State Forest.
2. Due to many reasons which I will discuss later, the present ski trails should be maintained and groomed before new trails are put in.
3. The trails should be developed so as they bring the greatest good to the most skiers.
4. Future expansion should be in the direction of developing trails for the day tourer who skis two to five hours at a time.

DNR Response: These points will be covered in the implementation plan. A detailed five page letter, including a map, expanding on each of the above points is on file.

Thomas Evans, Geological and Natural History Survey

1. Dr. M.G. Mudrey, Jr. has reviewed the Master Plan for the Flambeau River State Forest (Price, Rusk, and Sawyer Counties). His review indicates that geologic resources in the Master Plan are not addressed and, as a consequence, mineral resource potential in the State Forest area is ignored. Because of the bedrock located in the area and mineral exploration activity nearby, we urge you and the Department to consider these additional factors.

DNR Response: Natural Resources Laws 26.08 provides for "licenses. . . granted to prospect for all and mineral. . . However, Natural Resources Laws 24.39 states the board of commissioners of public lands may grant leases of parts or parcels of any public lands except state park lands and state forest lands; to prospect for and to dig and remove therefrom ore, minerals and other deposits. An Attorney General's opinion is available.

Forest Stearns, Scientific Areas Preservation Council Chairman

1. The plan could be improved by giving more recognition to the Flambeau River and retention of its high recreation value. The very extensive river wilderness zone along the Flambeau River is one of the best wild river segments in the state. Forest management and fish management on tributary streams will no doubt help to insure that the high water quality of the river is maintained; however, a specific statement on this issue would reinforce this commitment and the importance of the river wilderness.

DNR Response: Agreed. Now addressed in the Master Plan.

2. Inventory by the Scientific Areas Section identified a remnant stand of old growth hemlock-hardwood in the north part of Section 12, Town 38 North, Range 3 West. This stand was on the edge of the July 4, 1977 windstorm path and now remains as the largest block of old growth timber in the forest. This timber adjoins the proposed Swamp Lake Wilderness and could be included within the Swamp Lake Wilderness Zone. As an alternative, the tract or at least a considerable portion, could be designated as a public use natural area. Management under usual guidelines of big tree silviculture would not destroy the stand, but timber harvest would require roads and other disturbance.

DNR Response: The old growth hemlock-hardwood stand will not be placed in the Wilderness Lake Area since the stand will be managed. Roads are already present and a third cut in the stand has been completed.

3. The presence of a red-shouldered hawk nest (Wisconsin threatened species) in the tract attests to its value as an old-growth stand.

DNR Response: The presence of the hawk nest is addressed in the Master Plan and will have an effect on the management techniques implemented in the stand.

4. The plan should note (page 18) that partial restoration of the deer exclosure is underway. Two exclosures totalling about 10 acres are being constructed as part of the research effort.

DNR Response: To be covered in the implementation plan.

5. The land use zones established indicate that the Task Force understood the intent of the Natural Resources Board in establishing a wild resources program. The one exception to this otherwise exemplary application of the land use classifications is the Big Block Wilderness Zone of 1,354 acres. This tract has always been accessible and dissected by logging roads, and was subjected to considerable timber harvest long before the July 4, 1977 windthrow. It is not a pioneer and sprout stand of small trees. Other areas on the forest such as the old growth timber near Swamp Lake previously mentioned, or the Bear Creek Wild Area, or the Butternut Creek Wild Area would be better candidates for wilderness designation.

DNR Response: In the Task Force's judgement, these areas serve the public's needs under their present classification.

## BASS LAKE - WILDERNESS LAKE AREA

### ADDENDUM

#### Flambeau River State Forest Master Plan Concept Element

### INTRODUCTION

This addendum to the Flambeau River State Forest Master Plan provides, in general terms, the concepts that will be applied to the proposed Bass Lake Wilderness Lake Area. The property will be administered as part of the Flambeau River State Forest.

Upon review and approval by the Natural Resources Board, this Master Plan Addendum will become the controlling document for operation and management of the Bass Lake Wilderness Area.

### I. OBJECTIVES

Add: 6. To manage Bass Lake, a natural, undeveloped, clear water lake, as a wilderness lake to protect and maintain the lake and its shoreline for fishing, nature study, and aesthetic appreciation.

### II. RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Add: A. Timber Management

6. Timber on the lands within the Bass Lake Wilderness Area shall be managed in accordance with guidelines for wilderness lakes.

a. No vegetative management within 400 feet of the shoreline or within sight of the water, whichever is greater and along access corridors, except





where necessary for control of wildfires. Insect infestations which threaten surrounding lands are to be controlled.

- b. In the area beyond the 400 foot zone to a distance of  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile from the shoreline, such vegetative management shall be permitted as will maintain and improve the aesthetic qualities of the lake.

Add: B. Fish Management

6. The fish population in Bass Lake will be surveyed to determine the management options best suited to obtain the overall objective of large fish management.

Add: C. Wildlife Management

7. The existing natural environment of Bass Lake allows relatively undisturbed use by wildlife and provides opportunities to view wildlife in a wild setting.

Add: D. Recreational And Administrative Development

8. Bass Lake Wilderness Area

- a. Obliterate one existing cabin on the east side of the lake.
- b. Clean up and remove old boats and litter.
- c. Gate or otherwise obstruct two trails leading to the lake, one from the east and one from the north. These trails will be gated at the property line.
- d. Improve an existing woods road from the west to an all weather woods road to within no less than 1500 feet of Bass Lake. Construct necessary signing and gating to terminate vehicle use by the public at



this point.

- e. Post rules for area: (i.e., no overnight camping, no storage of water craft, no littering, etc.).
- f. Construct gravel foot path from terminated point of road to lake for walk-in access.
- g. Scheduled inspections will be made for the purpose of maintenance, removal of litter, and law enforcement.

Add: E. Land Acquisition

An additional ownership goal of 707.94 acres is established for the Bass Lake Wilderness Lake Area. The area will include all lands within  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile of the shoreline to insure compliance of management guidelines for wilderness lakes.

Lands included are:

Township 38 North, Range 2W, Price County

Section 7: SESW, SWSW, SWSE

Section 18: NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE SE, NW SE, SW SE

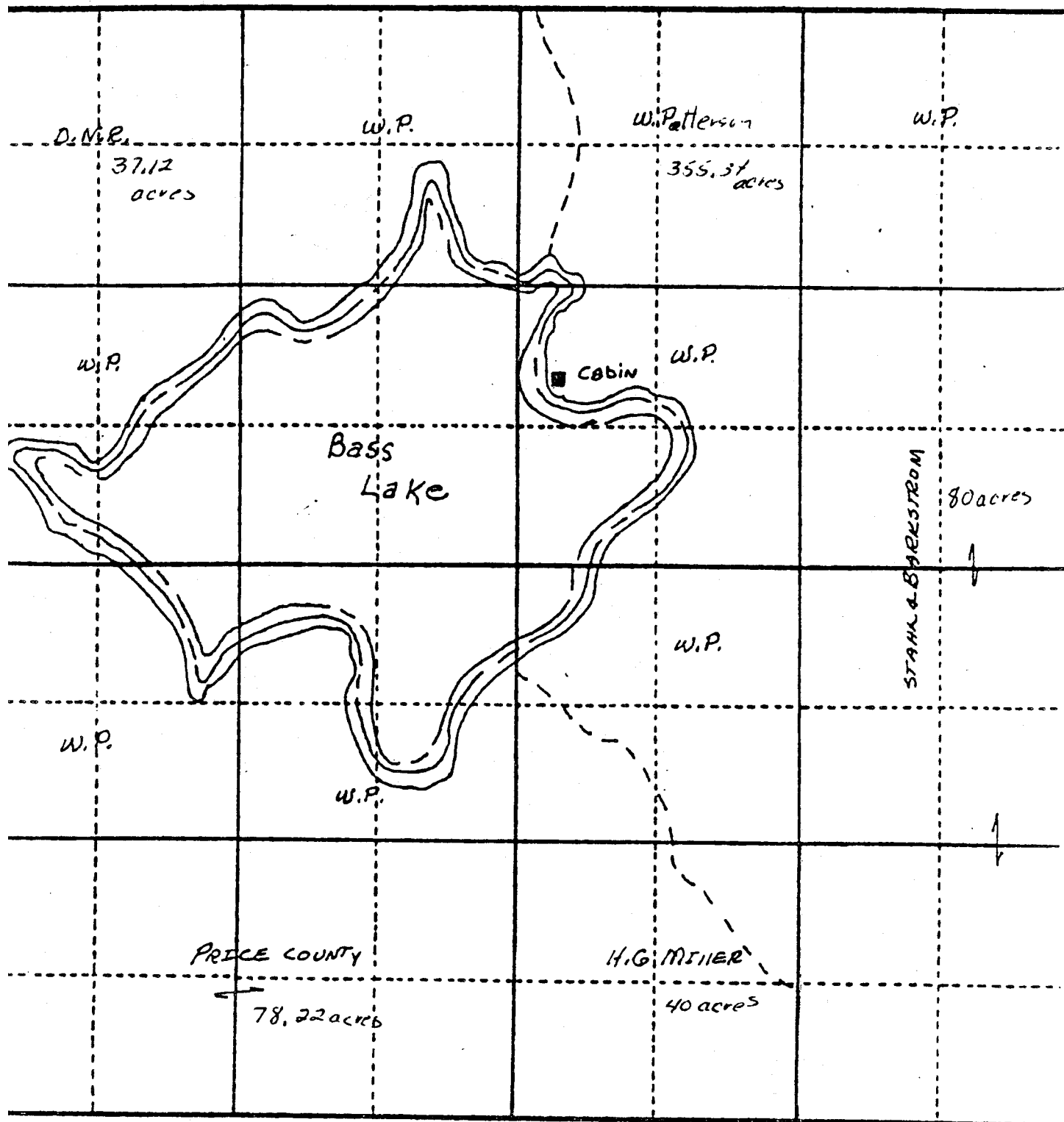
Present Owners:

Patterson	355.34 acres
R. Simon, Jr.	117.26 acres
Price County	78.22 acres
Stahl & Barkstrom	80.00 acres
H. G. Miller	40.00 acres
D.N.R.	<u>37.12 acres</u>
	707.94 acres

These ownerships are shown on the attached maps.



ECY		MAPPED BY	
TY PRICE		LANDOWNER	
FIRMBAU		ADDRESS	
ION 18	TOWNSHIP 38N	RANGE 2W	ACREAGE











### III. LAND USE ZONES

Add: B-7. Wilderness Lake Area

#### Management Guidelines

- a. Complete preservation with no vegetative management within 400 feet of the shoreline or within sight of the water, whichever is greater; and along access corridors, except where necessary for control of wildfires. Insect infestations which threaten surrounding lands are to be controlled.
- b. In the area beyond the 400 foot zone to a distance of one quarter mile from the shoreline. Such vegetative management shall be permitted as will maintain and improve the aesthetic qualities of the lake.
- c. No camping shall be permitted within this Wilderness Lake Area.
- d. No structural developments of any type shall be permitted within one quarter mile of the shoreline.
- e. Except when required for management, motors of all types shall be prohibited on the waters, and all motorized vehicles shall be prohibited within one quarter mile of the shoreline.
- f. Hunting, fishing, and trapping are permitted.

Acreage: Water	94 acres
Land	<u>614 acres</u>
Total	708 acres

### IV. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Add: AI. Significance of Bass Lake Wilderness Lake Area

The stated purpose of the Wilderness Lake Area is to protect



and perpetuate the natural resource values associated with a natural, undisturbed Northern Wisconsin clearwater lake. Bass Lake is a 94 acre lake with 10,400 feet of undisturbed, irregular shoreline. Shoreline bottom types are predominately gravel (80%) and muck and silt. Maximum depth is 45 feet. Aquatic vegetation is yellow and white waterlily, water shield, and potamogeton. Bass and panfish are self-sustaining and grow to quality size. Broods of black, wood, mallard, and teal ducks have been reported on the lake along with observations of loons.

Cover types on the shoreline are aspen and white birch on the east, some open muskeg swamp on the north and south with the majority (70%) of the cover being hemlock, white pine and northern hardwoods. Uplands are gently rolling in contrast to the flat swamps. The overall appearance is pristine and very aesthetically pleasing.

The undisturbed area is a unique eco-system that could be enjoyed by the public for fishing, nature study, and aesthetic appreciation under certain restrictions without threat of destruction. Natural conditions as they exist would be maintained. Fish management would be targeted to production of large fish. Vehicle access to the lake would be prohibited.



# **UPPER NORTH FORK FLAMBEAU RIVER NATURAL AREA**

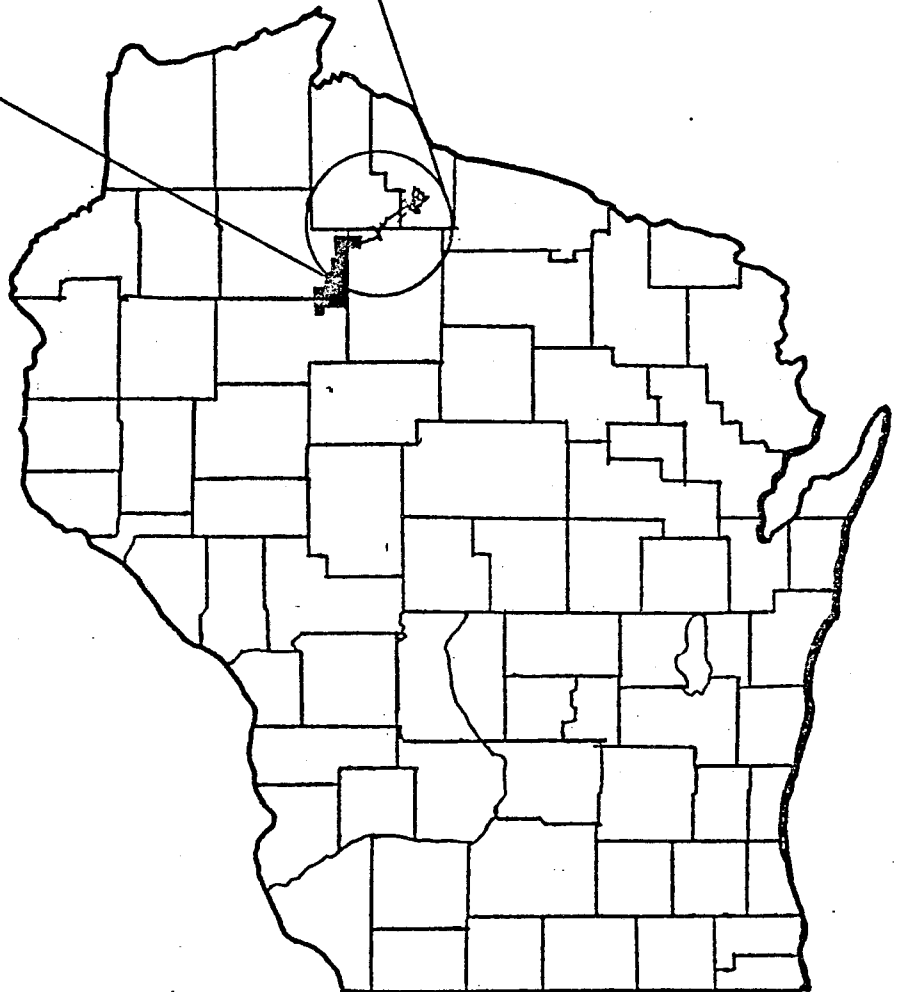
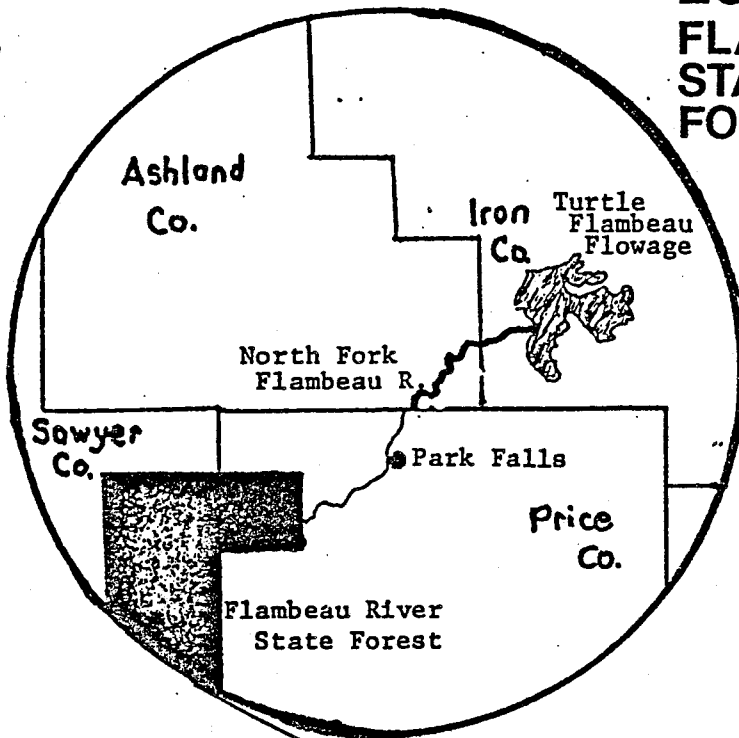


**ADDENDUM TO:  
FLAMBEAU RIVER STATE FOREST  
MASTER PLAN CONCEPT ELEMENT**



# LOCATION MAP

## FLAMBEAU RIVER STATE FOREST-NORTH FORK FLAMBEAU RIVER NATURAL AREA







UPPER NORTH FORK FLAMBEAU RIVER NATURAL AREA

ADDENDUM

FLAMBEAU RIVER STATE FOREST  
Master Plan  
Concept Element

Introduction

This addendum to the Flambeau River State Forest Master Plan provides, in general terms, the concepts that will be applied to the proposed Upper North Fork Flambeau River Natural Area. The property will be administered as part of the Flambeau River State Forest.

Upon review and approval by the Natural Resources Board, this master plan addendum will become the controlling document for operation and management of the Upper North Fork Flambeau River Natural Area.

*Any major changes made to this plan after its adoption by the Natural Resources Board will be subject to public review and an additional approval by that board. However, minor changes in the concept plan can be made administratively.\**

I. OBJECTIVES

Add:

7. To maintain a natural area zone extending approximately 300 feet on either side of the free flowing portion of the Upper North Fork Flambeau River above Park Falls to protect the natural character of the river.

II. RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Add:

A. Timber Management

7. The lands along the Upper North Fork Flambeau River Natural Area will be left in their natural state.

Add:

B. Fish Management

7. The North Fork Flambeau River above the Park Falls Flowage offers excellent warmwater fish habitat. Fish stocking is not required at the present time.

(\*script and underlined type found in this document represents comments made by persons during public information meetings. The public worked closely with the DNR in helping to develop this Master Plan)



Add:

C. Wildlife Management

8. The existing natural environment of the Upper North Fork Flambeau River *Natural Area* allows relatively undisturbed use by wildlife and provides opportunities to view wildlife in a wild setting.

Add:

D. Recreational and Administrative Development

8. Upper North Fork Flambeau River *Natural Area*.

- a. Renovate Present Access point - Section 3, T41N, R2E - to provide canoe and boat access.
- b. Develop a river-only access campground for use by canoeists and boaters. This campground would provide water and sanitary facilities.
- c. *Scheduled inspections will be made for the purpose of site maintenance and removal of litter. The frequency of inspection will be determined by the degree of public use.*
- d. A survey of river use levels will be conducted for a minimum of two years prior to renovation of the access point and development of the campground. This data would be supplemented with additional information from local citizens. No decisions will be made on any development work until the use levels for the rivers have been fully evaluated.
- e. *Citizen's Advisory Council*

*A Citizen's Advisory Council will be established to:*

1. *Assure adequate communication with local residents.*
2. *Assure that the Master Plan for the project is being followed.*
3. *Provide a means by which citizens can bring their ideas or problems concerning the project to the attention of the Department.*
4. *Provide a means by which information from the Department could be given to the Town Boards and local citizens.*



*The Council would consist of seven members:*

*Chairman - Town of Agenda  
Local Resident - Town of Agenda  
Chairman - Town of Sherman  
Local Resident - Town of Sherman  
Chairman - Town of Mercer  
Local Resident - Town of Mercer  
DNR - District Director or Designee*

Add:

E. Land Acquisition

2. An additional ownership goal of 1,114 acres is established for the Upper North Fork Flambeau River Natural Area. This will include the lands approximately 300 feet on both sides of the Upper North Fork Flambeau River from the north line of Section 3, T41N, R2E (just above the access point) along the river through sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, T41N, R2E; portions of Sections 11 and 21 plug Sections 12, 14, 15, 22, 33, and that portion lying west of the river in Section 28, and that portion lying south of the river in the N½ of Section 32, and that portion north and east of the river in Section 32 all in T41N, R1E. In addition, all of the area east of the river in Section 28, T41N, R1E is included. An additional small acreage (10 acres or less) may be included if needed to develop the proposed canoe campsite. These acres may be needed to provide toilet and well facilities out of the river flood plain. The lands described above are shown on the attached "boundary map".

*Land acquisition is limited to acres within these boundaries. Any future variance is subject to public review and Natural Resources Board approval.*

*Fee title acquisition will be from willing sellers only. While the DNR does have the legal right to recommend condemnation, this is not likely to occur on the Upper North Fork Flambeau River Natural Area. The DNR has never recommended condemnation anywhere in northwestern Wisconsin. In the final analysis, DNR does not foresee any eventuality which would require a recommendation for condemnation on the Upper North Fork Flambeau River Natural Area.*

*The "ORAP-200" law enacted in January 1970 provides the towns with an annual formula payment for all lands acquired after July 1, 1969. The formula is based on the assessment, by the town assessor, in the year following acquisition, multiplied by the county, local and school tax rate levied that year. The first year payment is 100% and each succeeding year is reduced by 10% of the*



*first payment until the 10th year. All subsequent payments are equal to the tenth payment but never less than 50¢ an acre.*

*A deed restriction may be included on lands acquired to assure long-term preservation of the river in its natural state.*

Add:

G. Law Enforcement

*The Department assumes responsibility for all law enforcement on the Upper Flambeau Natural Area as directed by Administrative Code. These responsibilities will be carried out by wardens, park rangers, forest rangers or other authorized personnel. Wisconsin Administrative Code governs land use of Department-owned properties. These management guidelines do not affect private lands within or adjacent to the project boundary. Wisconsin Statutes governing fish, game, fire, and littering apply to all lands within the state and there will be no change from past enforcement authority.*

III. LAND USE ZONES

Add to B-12

Historical and Archaeological Areas

There are three known logging dam sites on the Upper North Fork Flambeau River Natural Area located at; "Island Rapids; below "the Ledge Rapids" and above "Sixth Rapids". Remnants of the dams remain. These sites will be left as they presently exist.

Add:

B-13 Natural Areas Description: As described in 23.092(1) Natural Areas include tracts of land or water which have native biotic communities, unique natural features or significant geological or archeological sites.

Description: The Upper North Fork Flambeau River Natural Area.

Acres.

Management guidelines:

- a. Allow natural physical and biological processes to operate with minimal human intervention.
- b. Timber harvest prohibited, but salvage following extensive natural disaster may be permitted.





- c. Access points, campsites and picnic sites are permitted, however, development and management would be limited to the extent requirement to facilitate use and prevent degradation.
  - 1. Access by vehicles is allowed only at designated access points.
  - 2. Access by users on foot is allowed at all points along the river provided that trespass does not occur on the adjoining private lands.
- d. Habitat manipulation designed to benefit particular species of plants or wildlife are prohibited.
- e. Wildfires will be suppressed.
- f. Hunting, fishing, and trapping are permitted as provided for in-state regulations.
- g. Under the Metallic Mining Reclamation Act (ss. 144.80-144.94), the Natural Area would be classified as "unsuitable" for either prospecting or surface mining. The natural area is "unsuitable" because the unique features of the land and river cannot be preserved by relocation or replacement elsewhere. This classification means that the Department would not issue permits for obtaining a sample of ore for such means as excavation, trenching, or constructing a pit (prospecting), or the actual process of surface mining a deposit.

Exploration for minerals is not subject to a permitting process. The purpose of exploration is to search for metallic mineral deposits or determine the nature of a known deposit. Any licensed owner of mineral right to lands within could explore for minerals provided that the conditions of NR 130 (Wisconsin Administrative Code) are met. This means an on-site examination of the area, by drilling sample holes (not to exceed 18-inch diameter), would be permissible.

Underground mining would be subject to the normal permit process outlined in the above statutes. These statutes apply to public and private lands within the proposed boundary.

- h. Water flow of the Upper North Fork will not be altered by the establishment of the natural area. Federal and State Statutes establishes flow standards for operation of the Turtle-Flambeau dam.
- i. Navigation of the Upper Flambeau River will not be altered by the establishment of a Natural Area. Use of



*watercraft and outboard motors will be allowed as provided for in-Wisconsin Statutes.*

Add:

B - Land Use Summary

13 Upper North Fork Flambeau River Natural Area 1,114 acres.

IV. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Add:

AII. Significance of Upper North Fork Flambeau River Natural Area

The stated purpose of the *natural area* is to perpetuate the Upper North Fork Flambeau River as a natural area, a large free-flowing river in a near-primitive condition, for use by the public.

The outstanding features of the area are the free-flowing river and the setting through which it flows. There are no bridge crossings in the *area*. The water flow generally remains constant during the summer months at a level that allows boating and canoeing with ease. This is in contrast to many other rivers where levels become so low that canoeing is nearly impossible.

Beginning at a point just below the Turtle Flambeau Flowage the river begins a series of rapids with intermittent calm water. While the river has a gradient of 3 feet per mile from the flowage to Park Falls, some of the more notable features such as Notch Rock Rapids has a drop of 6 feet in 100 yards. As the river travels its course it passes through a relatively undisturbed forest of mixed pine and hardwoods. In addition to the natural features, remnants of old logging dams stand as a reminder of logging in the early 1900's.

The river has been recognized for canoeing and fishing for many years. Educational groups, youth groups, and camp groups regularly use the river for canoe trips. Local guides using river boats take many anglers down the river. No exact figures are available of the usage, but residents along the river state that use is significant.

The water is typically brown-stained like other northern rivers but is of high quality. Primary game fish species are walleye, muskellunge, smallmouth bass, lake sturgeon and northern pike. Other fish species are rock bass, yellow perch, northern redhorse, white suckers, longnose suckers, burbot, common shiners, and other minnow species. A fish refuge is enforced from the Turtle Flowage dam downstream for the protection of spawning walleye and lake sturgeon *as provided in Wisconsin Administrative Code 26.07(16)(A).*



Game Species present include deer, bear, muskrat, beaver, otter, ruffed grouse, woodcock and predatory furbearers including coyote, bobcat, red fox and fisher.

A variety of non-game species is found, including song birds, small mammals, hawks, owls, eagles, and ospreys. Bald eagles and ospreys are commonly observed using the river as a summer *fishing area*.

Bank cover varies from pristine pine and hemlock stands to aspen, balsam fir, white birch and swamp hardwoods. About 60% of the shoreland is high; 40% swamp or lowland. Several rock outcroppings are noticeable, with a major one occurring at Notch Rock Rapids.

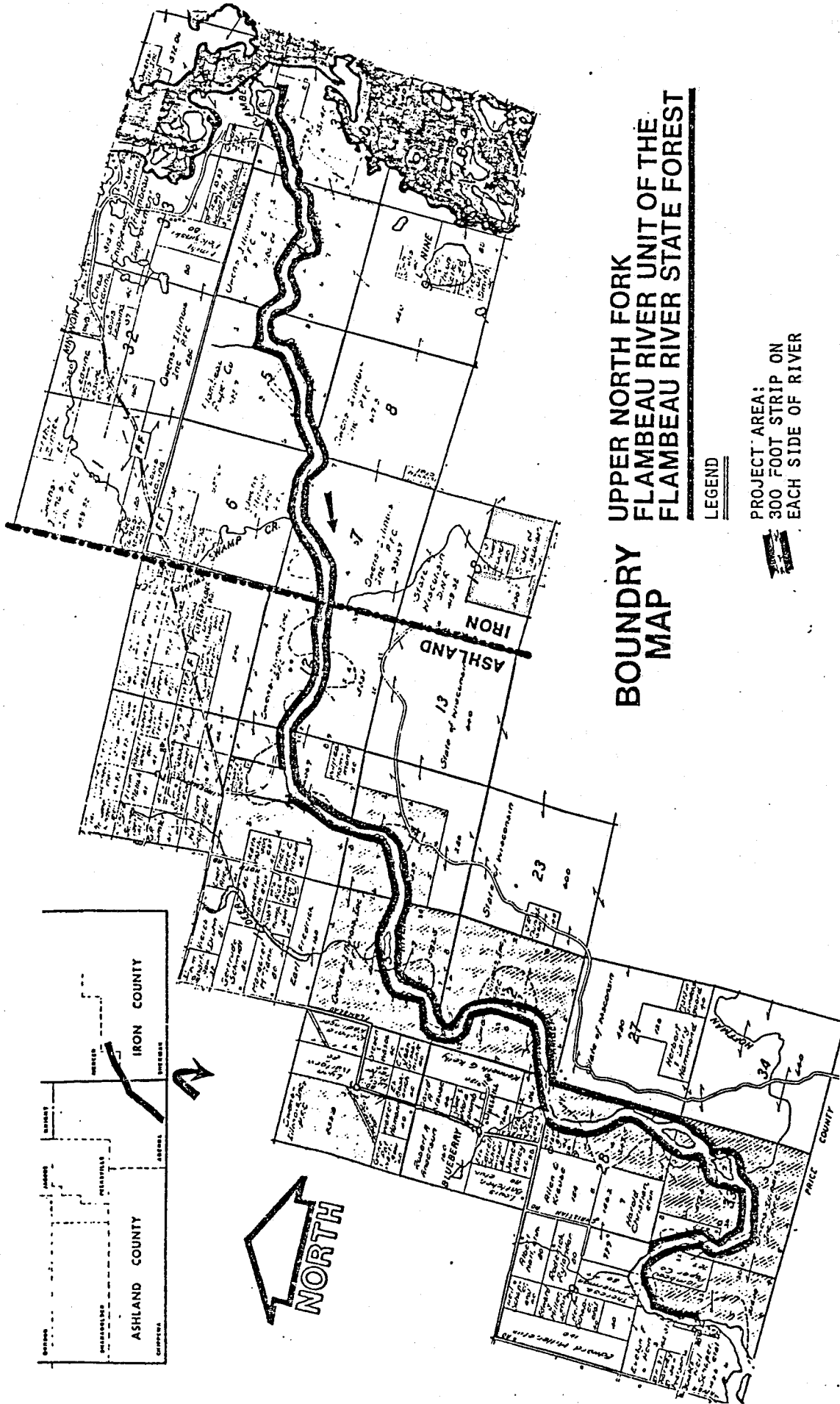
Access points serving the *natural area* are: 1) below the dam on the Turtle Flambeau Flowage (town road with limited parking, operated by Town of Sherman, Iron County); 2) Holt's Bridge (town road, limited parking, turnaround, operated by Town of Agenda, Ashland County).

Access sites outside the project boundary are: 1) Agenda Landing (town road to river, no turnaround, very limited parking, operated by Town of Agenda, Ashland County). 2) Flambeau Sportsmans boat landing, and 3) City of Park Falls landing at Hines Memorial Park. Camping, with restrooms and water, are also available at Hines Memorial Park.

There are several picnic sites along the river that have been developed by various individuals, generally for "shore lunches".

There are remnants from three logging dams in the *natural area* located at "Island Rapids", just below "The Ledge" and just above "Sixth Rapids".









IMPLEMENTATION ELEMENT

FLAMBEAU RIVER STATE FOREST

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## IMPLEMENTATION ELEMENT

### I. Acquisition

As of June 30, 1983, the department owned 87,581 acres within the forest boundaries. The acreage goal for the forest has been established at 92,416 leaving approximately 4,835 acres to be acquired. Table I of this section summarizes forest acquisition by county and township.

Acquisition will adhere to the priority criteria established in the concept element.

It is not possible to schedule the purchase of individual private parcels because acquisition is on a willing seller basis. It is estimated that it would take 20 years to achieve the acquisition goal for the forest. The current objective is to purchase 200 acres per year.



TABLE 1 (G.L.O. ACREAGE)

<u>County/ Township</u>	<u>DNR Ownership</u>	<u>Private Lands of Interest</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>No Acquisition</u>
PRICE				
Flambeau	1,779	850	2,629	1
Lake	6,656	920	7,576	-
RUSK				
Big Falls	645	181	826	-
Cedar Rapids	8,352	300	8,652	-
South Fork	6,075	175	6,250	-
SAWYER				
Draper	13,121	979	14,100	-
Winter	<u>50,953</u>	<u>1,430</u>	<u>52,383</u>	<u>473</u>
TOTALS	87,581	4,835	92,416	474



## II. Development

- A. Recreation: The following are recreational developments scheduled by biennium that are outlined in the concept plan. See attached map for location.

### 1983-85 Biennium

1. Canoe walk-in landing, Beaver Dam, (Objective 2): Provide landing facility including access road, small parking lot and toilets. Landing is being used now by canoers as a take out. This landing will reduce off site camping by providing a well located take out and encourage day use on this heavily used section of the river. Landing will also eliminate several miles of dead water canoeing south of Beaver Dam. Located in SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 7, T36N, R4W. Estimated cost: \$18,000.
2. Gating and signing wilderness and wild areas. (Objectives 1 and 2): Signing, gating or earthplugs will be used to prohibit vehicular access on woods trails within these zones. Estimated cost: \$1,500.
3. Construction of shelter building at Connors Lake Beach and Picnic Area (Objective 2): Opensided shelter building will provide needed cover for visitors. Estimated cost: \$23,000.
4. Restoration of purchase sites (Objective 1 & 2): As additional sites are acquired which may include improvements, buildings are sold and/or removed and sites are tored to natural condition. Locations are throughout the forest. Estimated Cost: \$1,500.
5. Cross Country Ski Trail (Objective 2): Construct additional 11 miles for skiing and combination off season hiking and back packing. One trail shelter will be built. Trail head will be snowmobile parking lot and lead away from snowmobile trail. This starting point will negate increase in plowing and additional toilets. Trail will terminate at existing Oxbo Ski Trail. Estimated cost: \$7,600.
6. Bass Lake Access (Objective 2 and 6): Construct all weather woods road to within 1500 feet of Bass Lake. No facilities would be included in the development for this wilderness lake except a 5 car parking lot, gravel trail to the lake, signing and adequate barriers to prevent vehicular access. Estimated cost: \$18,000.





7. Skinner Creek Road Extension (Priority #2): Construct 1.5 miles of road. Road would hook up Skinner Creek Road to Hervas Road bypassing a 2.5 mile section of Rusk County Forest road that is poorly maintained and at times impassable. Estimated cost: \$34,340.

#### 1985-87 Biennium

1. Canoe Landing (Objective 2): Construct canoe landing at Oxbo site. Facilities will include parking lot, well and toilets. Estimated cost: \$12,000.
2. Relocation of Snowmobile Trail (Objective 1 & 2): Project would involve relocating existing snowmobile trail outside restrictive zones as permitted in conceptual masterplan. Approximately 4½ miles to be rerouted. Estimated cost: \$6,000.
3. Bench Construction (Objective 2): Construct benches for seating at Connors Lake Beach and Picnic Area. Estimated cost: \$2,000.
4. Road Reconstruction (Objective 2,3,4 and 5): Project to include resurfacing and regrading 5 miles of existing forest road. Estimated cost: \$40,000.
5. Redevelop Water Facilities (Objective 2): Reconstruct several wells and replace worn pumps. Estimated cost: \$8,000.
6. Hiking Trail Development (Objective 2): Refurbish existing hiking and self guided nature trail at Slough Gundy, toilets would be included. Estimated cost: \$4,800.
7. Canoe Campsite Development (Objective 2): Construct 2 new canoe campsites at Oxbo and Trestle sites. Location of selected sites may change. Campsites to include cluster site, tables, firering and toilet. Estimated cost: \$6,000.
8. Interpretive Facilities (Objective 2): Develop 2 interpretive areas; one for timber management and one historical site. Sites are not selected at this time. Estimated cost: \$10,000.
9. Big White Pine (Objective 2): Construct iron pipe fence around Big White Pine to keep people at a distance. This large tree is an attraction in the area. People visiting the site have caused damage to the roots and bark. Estimated cost: \$2,000.



10. Restoration of purchase sites (Objective 1 & 2): As additional sites are acquired which may include improvements, buildings are sold and/or removed and sites are restored to natural condition. Locations are throughout the forest. Estimated cost: \$1,000.

1987-89 Biennium

1. Deer Lake Access Road (Objectives 2 & 4): Construct  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile long access road from West Lane to forest boundary. Sawyer County has developed a road which terminates at Forest Boundary. This road will connect state forest lands to a large block of Sawyer County land. Estimated cost: \$10,000.
2. Skinner Creek Flowage (Objective 2): Construction of combination picnic area and boat landing facility, access road to be improved, provide small parking area, toilets, tables and grills. Also repair the dike as required. Estimated cost: \$40,000.
3. Price Creek Extension (Objectives 2,3,4 and 5): Construct  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile forest road (private lands involved) from Price Creek Road to town road which will improve access for all Forest users. Estimated cost: \$15,000.
4. Road Reconstruction (Objectives 2,3,4 and 5): Project to include resurfacing and regrading 5 miles of existing Forest Road. Estimated cost: \$50,000.
5. Well Shelters (Objective 2): Construct well shelters on seven existing wells. Estimated cost: \$7,500.
6. Forest Signing (Objective 2): Replace approximately one half of the forest development and regulatory signs. Vandalism and theft remove signs constantly, requiring replacement for safety and law enforcement purposes. Estimated cost: \$5,000.
7. Picnic Table Replacement (Objective 2): Purchase 30 picnic tables to replace those vandalized over the years. Estimated cost: \$5,000.
8. Bank Fishing Deadman's Slough (Objective 2 & 5): Develop a small parking area near Highway 70 and Deadman's Slough to provide area for bank fishing. Because of its proximity to Highway 70 and the North Fork Flambeau River, shore fishing has become popular. Additional land may have to be purchased. Estimated cost: \$10,000.
9. Restoration of purchase sites (Objective 1 & 2): As additional sites are acquired which may include improvements, buildings are sold and/or removed and sites are restored to natural condition. Locations are throughout the forest. Estimated cost: \$1,000.



- B. Wildlife Management: The following are wildlife developments proposed for the forest. Emphasis is placed on openings and trail construction.

Construction sites will be selected in poorly stocked areas or those that have been previously cut-over.

Figures given are approximate. Many probable areas are not suitable for construction and exact locations will be determined through field checking.

1983-85 Biennium

1. Wildlife Opening Construction (Objectives 2 & 4):  
Construct 20-25 openings averaging 1 acre in size.  
1983-84 - 10 openings - cost \$3,500  
1984-85 - 10 openings - cost \$3,500
2. Trail Construction (Objectives 2 & 4):  
Construct and renovate trails necessary to provide access to openings.  
1983-84 - 2 miles - cost \$1,500  
1984-85 - 2 miles - cost \$1,500
3. Gates or Earth Plugs (Objectives 2 & 4):  
Erect gates and construct earthen plugs necessary to control vehicular access, when necessary.  
1983-84 - 2 gates, 4 plugs - cost \$500  
1984-85 - 2 gates, 4 plugs - cost \$500
4. Management of Endangered and Threatened Animals (part of area program):  
Erect two osprey nesting platforms to reestablish vacant territories.  
1983-84 - 1 platform (Lake of the Pine) - cost \$100  
1984-85 - 1 platform (Mason Lake) - cost \$100

1985-87 Biennium

1. Wildlife Opening Construction (Objectives 2 & 4):  
Construct 20-25 openings averaging 1 acre in size.  
1985-86 - 10 openings - cost \$3,700  
1986-87 - 10 openings - cost \$3,700
2. Trail Construction (Objectives 2 & 4):  
Construct and renovate trails necessary to provide access to openings.  
1985-86 - 2 miles - cost \$1,650  
1986-87 - 2 miles - cost \$1,650



4. Flowage Repair:  
The emergency spillway located on Sobieski Flowage will be rebuilt to bring the flowage back up to level and correct the problem of continuing erosion and subsequent water loss. One time project in 1985-86: Estimated cost: \$2,400.

#### 1987-89 Biennium

1. Wildlife Opening Construction (Objectives 2 & 4):  
Construct 20-25 openings averaging 1 acre in size.  
1987-88 - 10 openings - cost \$3,900  
1988-89 - 10 openings - cost \$3,900
2. Trail Construction (Objectives 2 & 4):  
Construct and renovate trails necessary to provide access to openings.  
1987-88 - 2 miles - cost \$1,800  
1988-89 - 2 miles - cost \$1,800
3. Gates or Earth Plugs (Objectives 2 & 4):  
Erect gates and construct earthen plugs necessary to control vehicular access, when necessary.  
1987-88 - 2 gates, 4 plugs - cost \$600  
1988-89 - 2 gates, 4 plugs - cost \$600

- C. Fish Management: The following are Fish Management development projects in the forest.

#### 1983-85 Biennium

1. Trout Habitat Improvement: Price Creek, T37N, R1W. Streamside woody vegetation removal, current deflectors, 1/2 logs, bank stabilization. Estimated cost: \$32,000.

#### 1985-87 Biennium

1. Trout Habitat Improvement: Price Creek: See 1983-85 Biennium. Estimated cost: \$16,000.
2. Trout Habitat Improvement: Stream yet to be determined. Estimated cost: \$30 - \$40,000.
3. Spring Pond Dredging: Price Creek Springs: Removal of silt and sediment from the spring pond to improve trout habitat. Estimated cost: \$20 - \$40,000.
4. Beaver control: On trout streams where needed. Removal of beaver and dams to protect existing trout habitat. Estimated cost: \$1,000.





#### 1987-89 Biennium

1. Trout Habitat Improvement: Stream yet to be determined. Estimated cost: \$20 - 30,000.
  2. Beaver Control: On trout streams where needed. Removal of beaver and dams to protect existing trout habitat. Estimated cost: \$1,000.
- D. Land Control: Development projects for land control include re-survey of state owned lands to prevent private trespass and to establish timber sale boundaries to prevent department trespass on private lands.

#### 1983-85 Biennium

Contract with private surveyor. D.N.R. crew to do brushing. Run about 9 miles of line and establish section and quarter corners with two inch pipe and brass caps. Estimated cost: \$3,000.

#### 1985-87 Biennium

Contract with private surveyor. D.N.R. crew to do brushing. Run about 9 miles of line and establish section and quarter corners with two inch pipe and brass caps. Estimated cost: \$4,000.

#### 1987-89 Biennium

Contract with private surveyor. D.N.R. crew to do brushing. Run about 9 miles of line and establish section and quarter corners with two inch pipe and brass caps. Estimated cost: \$5,000.

### III. Operations and Maintenance

- A. Recreation: Recreation operations functions are briefly described in the following narrative.

12-00436 Family Campgrounds and Canoe Campsites on the Flambeau River. This includes all operations required to administer and maintain the family campgrounds (2) and 14 canoe campsites. Included are work scheduling, camper registration, hazardous tree removal, toilet building maintenance, signs and the normal housekeeping duties associated with public use area. The 14 canoe campsites on the river are maintained weekly during the summer season. Maintenance includes garbage removal, signing and site repairs.



12-00104 Public Information Services: Purpose is to provide the general public information on various subjects that can be included under recreation. Information is disseminated through phone calls, letters, personal contact and tours.

- B. Wildlife Management: Operation and maintenance activities include: mowing of trails and openings, and seeding of logging trails and landings.

Hunting trails will be mowed annually or semi-annually depending on use-factors and stability of ground-layer vegetation. Objective is to maintain low growing vegetation while discouraging invasion by woody plants.

Openings will be mowed with a farm tractor and rotary mower. Mowing will combat invasion by woody plants and promote better establishment of sod-forming plant species.

Seeding operations, on logging trails and landings, will be done routinely, following timber sale activity. The effects of such seedings are temporary and the intent is to provide a short-term food source for deer and grouse, and to increase hunting opportunities.

#### 1983-85 Biennium

Trail mowing - 25 miles - various locations

Cost: 1983-84, 10 mi. @ \$300.00  
1984-85, 15 mi. @ \$450.00

Openings mowing - 40 acres - various locations

Cost: 1983-84, 15 A. @ \$425.00  
1984-85, 25 A. @ \$725.00

Trail seeding - 15 miles - various locations

Cost: 1983-84, 10 miles @ \$150.00  
1984-85, 5 miles @ \$ 75.00

#### 1985-87 Biennium

Trail mowing - 25 miles - various locations

Cost: 1985-86, 10 mi. @ \$300.00  
1986-87, 15 mi. @ \$450.00

Openings mowing - 40 acres - various locations

Cost: 1985-86, 15 A. @ \$425.00  
1986-87, 25 A. @ \$725.00

Trail seeding - 15 miles - various locations

Cost: 1985-86, 10 mi. @ \$150.00  
1986-87, 5 mi. @ \$450.00



### 1987-89 Biennium

Trail mowing - 25 miles - various locations

Cost: 1987-88, 10 mi. @ \$300.00  
1988-89, 15 mi. @ \$450.00

Openings mowing - 40 acres - various locations

Cost: 1987-88, 15 A. @ \$425.00  
1988-89, 25 A. @ \$725.00

Trail seeding - 15 miles - various locations

Cost: 1987-88, 10 mi. @ \$150.00  
1988-89, 5 mi. @ \$ 75.00

### C. Fish Management

1. Fish Stocking: This is an ongoing project that varies from year to year in both species and number planted. Stocking rates and species are determined by lake and stream investigations. Since there are continual changes in quotas, stocking schedules have not been included. At present no coldwater (trout) stocking is taking place on waters in the forest. Coolwater and warmwater species being stocked are muskellunge, smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. A field transfer of adult bluegills is being considered for one lake. The cost of stocking averages \$5,000-\$7,000 per year.
2. Lake Investigations: These fishery surveys are scheduled on a continuing basis to evaluate past management, determine future management direction and to monitor natural and manmade changes in the aquatic environment as it affects the fishery.

### 1983-85 Biennium

Connors Lake - Lake of the Pines - Determine standing stock of walleye and other gamefish and stocking success of musky and smallmouth bass as well as angler harvest and pressure. Estimated cost: \$5,047.

Little Pelican Lake - Evaluate recovery from winter-kill and determine future management. Estimated cost: \$300.

Bass Lake - Survey the fishery in this newly acquired lake to determine existing fish population and future management direction. Estimated Cost: \$700.



1985-87 Biennium

No lake surveys planned.

1987-89 Biennium

One lake survey, to be determined. Estimated cost: \$500 - 1,000.

3. Stream Investigations: All streams within the forest have been surveyed with electrofishing gear within the past 9-10 years, excepting the North and South Forks of the Flambeau River. Classification of trout water, habitat development and resource protection have resulted from these surveys. Evaluation of these management practices on streams will continue with an estimated 1 survey per year. Average annual cost: \$1,000.

D. Forest Management: Operation and maintenance objectives include the following: administration and supervision, public information services, training, timber sale administration and forest reconnaissance.

12-00103 Administration and Supervision: Includes the planning, organizing, and supervising day-to-day activities. Also included are issuance of fuelwood, bough and Christmas tree permits.

12-00104 Public Information Services: Purpose is to provide the general public information on the various subjects that can be included under forest management. Information is disseminated through phone calls, letters, personal contact and tours.

12-00112 Training: Includes the time spent on inservice training or as an instructor or as a member of specialist committees.

12-00322 Timber Sale Administration: Includes timber sales establishment volume accountability, fiscal accountability, contract compliance, and record keeping. Volume accountability is accomplished by scaling wood on the sale area or by the use of the ticket system. At present all sawlogs are scaled on the sale while operators have an option on the use of the ticket system. The ticket system utilizes mill scale.

Fiscal responsibility includes the invoicing, collecting and remitting of timber sale revenues, as per Manual Code.





- 12-00438 Beach and Picnic Area Maintenance: Described  
& 12-00444 together as they are considered as one public  
use area. Maintenance includes mowing, garbage  
and litter removal, toilet and table maintenance  
and buoy installation.
- 12-00440 Ski, Nature and Hiking Trails: The forest  
presently has one ski trail with approximately  
8 miles of trail. Maintenance includes brush  
and limb removal, signing and grooming. There  
is one self guided nature trail and one hiking  
trail on the forest. Maintenance includes  
brushing, hazard removal, signing and tread  
repair.
- 12-00442 Snowmobile Trails: The forest has 40.5 miles  
of snowmobile trails. Maintenance includes  
brush and limb removal, signing and tread  
repair. Grooming in recent years has been  
done by contract.
- 12-00446 Boat Landings: Maintenance of 3 boat landings  
and 5 canoe landings includes road repairs,  
signing and garbage removal.
- 12-00108 Roads: The forest has 28 miles of state forest  
roads. Maintenance includes snowplowing,  
patching, culvert replacement, grading, signing  
and occasionally mowing of shoulders. Interior  
campground roads are not included but are a  
part of campground maintenance.
- 12-00107 Buildings and Grounds: This includes buildings  
and grounds at the forest headquarters, building  
maintenance, mowing and signing.
- 12-00434 Law Enforcement: The main emphasis is on  
informing the forest visitors of rules and  
regulations. Citations are issued only after  
the problem cannot be resolved in any other  
way or if the violation is intentional.
- 12-00435 Sticker Sales: Includes the time spent and  
travel involved in selling of stickers at 3  
public use areas on the forest.
- 12-00106 Maintenance of all Equipment: Includes main-  
tenance of hand and power tools, lawn mowers,  
shop equipment, off road, automotive and  
heavy equipment.
- 12-00103 Administration and Supervision: Includes all  
other functions such as meetings, directing day  
to day activities, informational services  
planning, reports, etc.



Contract compliance involves field inspection of active timber sales on a scheduled, recorded basis. Field inspections of sale areas usually coincide with wood scale requests.

Record keeping is the responsibility of maintaining ledgers, journals, and individual sale folders covering the first three items.

- 12-00101 Forest Reconnaissance: The entire forest has been broken down into reconnaissance compartments. Each compartment has been type mapped by stand, visited, and data collected. This material has been computerized and programs printed for all forest management activities. Updating these compartments after management activities have been completed is required to maintain current information.

#### IV. Vegetative Management

Attached in the plan is a copy of the ownership map showing all the forest compartments by number. Compartment folders with individual type maps are maintained at the Flambeau Forest Headquarters. Also included is a copy of program 13, which is a summary of each stand that shows the scheduled year of treatment.

Treatment includes harvest, timber stand improvement, site preparation, and planting schedules.



## ADDENDUM

### FLAMBEAU RIVER STATE FOREST Master Plan

#### Introduction

This addendum to the Flambeau River State Forest Concept Master Plan provides in general terms for the use of All Terrain Vehicles (as defined in Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter NR 64) on designated all terrain vehicle trails within the State Forest. Minor changes in this proposal can be made administratively. The proposed trail utilizes present and existing snowmobile trails.

#### I. OBJECTIVE

Add:

8. To maintain an ATV trail system within the State Forest, including a hookup with the Tuscobia Trail, and to provide the public with an opportunity to utilize parts of existing snowmobile trails as all terrain vehicle trails.

#### II. RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Add:

D. Recreational and Administrative Development

4. Trails

e. ATV trails

- (a) The trail south of Highway "W" will be refurbished in several places with culverts over swamp drainages, additional fill, use of corduroy, and/or minor relocation to permit use of ATV's. South of "W" trail will be entirely on existing snowmobile trail.
- (b) Trail north of "W" to Highway "70" will be leveled and filled where necessary to accommodate ATV's.
- (c) New trail north of Highway "70" will follow existing woods roads with approximately one mile being new construction. Two bridges will be constructed and two smaller drainages crossed. Hookup to the Tuscobia Trail will be via USFS property and forest road 161.



- (d) Easements or permission needed over non-state forest lands will be: USFS property near Highway E. and vicinity of Mason Lake-Mason Creek area. Resolutions from the towns of Draper and Winter to operate on town roads will be necessary.
- (e) Two small parking lots will be constructed: one near the junction of Highways "M" and "W" near Connors Lake and one near the junction of Highway "M" and Skinner Creek Road.
- (f) Trails will be gated restricting use of street licensed vehicles to reduce rutting where practical.
- (g) Trail will be open for public use May 15 to December 1 - 6-1/2 months or as posted by the District Director.
- (h) Total trail length will be 37 miles with 19 miles south of "W" and 18 miles north of "W".





[illegible]

### Proposed ATV Trail

